

# REPORT

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

AMERICAN TEMPERANCE UNION,

1838.

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## PLEDGE OF THE UNION.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, DO AGREE, THAT WE WILL NOT USE INTOXICATING LIQUORS AS A BEVERAGE, NOR TRAFFIC IN THEM; THAT WE WILL NOT PROVIDE THEM AS AN ARTICLE OF ENTERTAINMENT, OR FOR PERSONS IN OUR EMPLOYMENT; AND THAT, IN ALL SUITABLE WAYS, WE WILL DISCOURTEGE THEIR USE THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY.

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PHILADELPHIA:

STEREOTYPED BY L. JOHNSON,

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1838.

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# ORIGIN AND HISTORY

## OF THE

### AMERICAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

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At the meeting of the United States Temperance Convention, held in Philadelphia, May 21, 1833, it was

*Resolved*,—That the officers of the American Temperance Society, and of the several State Societies, are hereby requested to act as a United States Temperance Society; to hold mutual consultations, and to take all suitable measures to carry into effect the objects of this Convention; to embody public sentiment, and by the universal diffusion of information and the exertion of kind moral influence to extend the principles and blessings of the Temperance reformation throughout our country and throughout the world.

Pursuant to the above resolution, this Society assembled at Philadelphia, May 21, 1833, and adopted a series of important resolutions. Among them were the following:

*Resolved*,—That the officers of the American Temperance Society, and of each of the State Temperance Societies, in their associated capacity, be denominated the United States Temperance Union.

*Resolved*,—That the object of the Union shall be, by the diffusion of information and the exertions of kind moral influence, to promote the cause of Temperance throughout the United States.

*Resolved*,—That Isaac S. Loyd, Matthew Newkirk, and Isaac Collins of Pennsylvania, John Tappan of Massachusetts, Edward C. Delavan of New York, be a committee to carry into effect, by all suitable means, the objects of the Union, and that they continue in office till others are appointed.

*Resolved*,—That the above named Committee call another meeting of the Union at such time and place as they may judge proper.

*Resolved*,—That the Corresponding Secretaries of all State Societies be, *ex officio*, members of this Committee.

In virtue of the authority thus delegated to them, the Committee called the Second National Convention, which assembled at Saratoga Springs on the 4th of August, 1836; at which Convention nineteen states and territories, with the two Canadas, were represented by near four hundred delegates.

Among the acts of the Convention it was

*Resolved*,—That the name of the United States Temperance Union be changed to, The American Temperance Union; and the Union was fully organized by the appointment of the following officers.

*President*—JOHN H. COCKE, of Virginia.

*Vice-presidents*—MATTHEW NEWKIRK, of Pennsylvania, SAMUEL HUBBARD, of Massachusetts, LEWIS CASS, of Michigan, Bishop STUART, of Lower Canada, THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN, of New Jersey, R. H. WALWORTH, of New York, ROBERT LUCAS, of OHIO, and ROBERT P. DUNLAP, of Maine.

*Executive Committee*—EDWARD C. DELAVAN, JOHN W. LEAVITT, of New York, ISAAC COLLINS, ISAAC S. LOYD, of Pennsylvania, JOHN TAPPAN, of Massachusetts, CHRISTIAN KEENER, of Maryland, and JOHN T. NORTON, of Connecticut.

*Secretaries*—JOHN MARSH, of Pennsylvania, and LYNDON A. SMITH, of New Jersey.

*Treasurer*—ROBERT EARP, of Pennsylvania.

*Auditor*—THOMAS FLEMING, of Pennsylvania.

In the month of October the Committee met in New York, and adopted the following resolutions :

*Resolved*,—That it is desirable that a national Temperance press be established at Philadelphia, from which shall be issued such publications as the great interests of the cause may require.

*Resolved*,—That Edward C. Delavan, Isaac S. Loyd, and Justin Edwards D.D., be a Committee to secure the services of an able editor at Philadelphia.

On the 15th of January, 1837, the Committee commenced, at Philadelphia, the publication of the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN TEMPERANCE UNION, a monthly periodical of 16 pages quarto, at the price of five dollars per annum for ten copies, and appointed the Rev. John Marsh, one of the Secretaries of the Union, their Corresponding Secretary, and Conductor of the Journal.

They also appointed the Rev. Justin Edwards, D. D., of Massachusetts, and the Rev. E. N. Kirk, of Albany, to represent the American Temperance Union at the next anniversary of the British and Foreign Temperance Society.

At the establishment of the Journal, the Chairman of the Committee generously placed at the disposal of the Committee, the sum of TEN THOUSAND dollars.

## ANNUAL MEETING.

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The Second Anniversary of the American Temperance Union was held at Philadelphia, May 22, 1838.\*

A meeting for business was held at the rooms of the Committee at 3 o'clock P. M., at which the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

*Resolved*,—That, as the American Temperance Union is an organization composed of all the State Temperance Societies in the United States and in North America, it is desirable that those societies should hold frequent and direct communications with the Executive Committee at Philadelphia; and if any of those societies are in a state of inaction, that they be speedily reorganized by the friends of Temperance, on the total abstinence principle.

*Resolved*,—That, in the opinion of the American Temperance Union, the manufacture, sale, and use of all intoxicating drinks, as a beverage, is morally wrong; and ought to be abandoned throughout the world.

*Resolved*,—That the continuance of Temperance meetings, and the offer for signature of the total abstinence pledge, are essential to the support and prosperity of the Temperance cause.

*Resolved*,—That the late legislative action of Tennessee and Massachusetts, in relation to the license law, calls for an expression of lively gratitude, as a desired result of the great labours of the friends of Temperance, and a token of unspeakable good to our common country.

*Resolved*,—That the friends of Temperance in every state, be urged to hold up to their fellow-citizens, the examples of those states; and to spare no labour until public sentiment shall everywhere demand and sustain similar action.

*Resolved*,—That those officers in the army, who have asked Congress for the discontinuance of the spirit ration on fatigue duty, deserve the thanks of their country; and that the continuance of the ration in the navy cannot but be viewed as a vast national evil.

*Resolved*,—That the undeniable connexion between spirit drinking and the late frightful calamities in steamboats on our western waters, cannot fail to produce the deepest anxiety and concern in the public mind, and demand an united effort of all the friends of humanity and Temperance to establish and sustain a line of boats on strict Temperance principles.

*Resolved*,—That the numerous appeals made to the Executive Committee from foreign countries for Temperance publications, are very affecting; and cause the Union to feel the responsibility resting upon them, and the importance of an increase of the means of extending, through this channel, the cause of Temperance.

*Resolved*,—That it be submitted to the community, whether the Temperance cause ought not to be placed upon a footing with the other benevolent enterprises of the day, and receive a portion of their contributions.

*Resolved*,—That, as no good thing can prosper without the Divine blessing, an occasional concert of prayer is desirable for the cause of Temperance; and would Christians and Christian churches devote the fifth Monday evenings of the year to this object, it might be found eminently profitable.

In the evening a public meeting was held in the Central Presbyterian church. In the absence of Gen. J. H. Cocke, of Virginia, President, Matthew Newkirk, Esq., first Vice-president, took the chair. The meeting was

\* The First Anniversary of the Union was held in the city of New York, May, 1837.

opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Cleveland, of Michigan. An abstract of the report was read by the Corresponding Secretary ; after which, the following hymn was sung, in a plaintive air, by the choir of the church :

Son of sorrow ! son of sorrow,  
Whither bendest thou thy way ;  
What hath hope for thee to-morrow !  
What enjoyment has to-day ?

False excitement, maddening ever,  
Fills thy fever-heated brain :  
This will save from sorrow never,  
Leaving death, remorse, and pain.

Son of sorrow ! son of sorrow !  
Come with me, O ! come to-day ;  
Wait not—wait not till to-morrow,  
Leave, O leave delusion's way.

Where are now the babes thou loved,  
Where the wife thou held so dear ?  
What has thine affection proved ?  
Son of madness, shed a tear !

I would conceal the gloomy picture,  
Thou thyself must draw a sigh ;  
Son of madness, change, O change thee,  
Ere thy wife and children die !

Change thee ere thy doom is fix'd,  
Bringing everlasting gloom !  
Flee, O flee the drunkard's madness,  
Flee from madness and the tomb.

An address was then delivered by the Rev. Dr. Nott, of Union College, on the proper remedy for the desolating evils of intemperance in our country. A remedy there must be, or the country is ruined. A remedy there is, known and read of all men—total abstinence from the cause of the evil. That remedy must be used, or the scourge will be entailed upon us ; we must meet the expense and furnish the victims. Is there not patriotism, and philanthropy, and religion enough amongst all classes to induce them to unite in making the needful sacrifices ? These were his chief topics. His appeals to the wealthy and influential, to parents, to young men, to the female sex, were pre-eminently beautiful and pathetic, and made a deep impression upon a large audience.

After the address the following hymn was sung by the choir.

Let Temperance and her sons rejoice,  
And be their praises loud and long  
Let every heart and every voice  
Conspire to raise a joyful song.

And let the anthems rise to God,  
Whose favouring mercies so abound ;  
And let his praises fly abroad  
The spacious universe around.

The benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Tyng, of Philadelphia

# REPORT

## OF THE

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

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IN presenting their second Annual Report, the Executive Committee would acknowledge their dependence on Almighty God for success in their labours, and shun, if possible, the sin of ingratitude for his rich and abundant smiles upon their important enterprise.

In sustaining and carrying forward the Temperance reformation, the Committee are, amid this vast population, but as a drop in the ocean.— Yet, designated by the General Convention of delegates from nearly all the Temperance Societies in the United States, as a central committee to mark the movements of all, to observe the advance of all, to collect facts from all, and present them in a public journal; to suggest, from time to time, such measures as may appear profitable; and to be the organ of communication with the friends and promoters of Temperance in foreign countries; the Committee have continued a second year in their work, in the humble hope of discharging faithfully the important duties incumbent upon them.

#### *Change in the Committee.*

During the year that is past, one of the Committee, Isaac Collins of Philadelphia, has resigned his station; and his place has been filled by the appointment of the Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, who has expressed a high pleasure in being invited thus to co-operate in this great work.

#### *Organ of Communication.*

The Journal of the American Temperance Union has continued to be the organ through which the Committee have endeavoured to sustain and carry out the principles of the National Temperance Conventions of Philadelphia and Saratoga Springs, viz: the immorality of the traffic in ardent spirits; total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks as a beverage, as the only remedy for intemperance; and the impolitic and vicious legislation of licensing men, for a price, to pursue a business which fills the land with pauperism, crime, and death.



The circulation of the Journal, though not so great as desirable, has equalled reasonable expectation amid the embarrassments of the community, and while more than twenty Temperance papers have elained the patronage of friends around them.

From one to twelve hundred copies have been sent to subscribers in each State, besides a gratuity of 20,000 of one number, to every minister of the gospel, and every postmaster in the United States ; of one copy, monthly, to every member of Congress ; of 400 to editors of periodicals ; and 200 to friends in England : 200, also, by the liberality of one of the vice-presidents, have been sent to various missionary stations.

At the commencement of the year, the Committee addressed a circular to the twelve hundred editors of periodicals in the United States, offering to furnish them, without exchange, a copy of the Journal, provided they should signify a willingness to transfer to their papers, monthly, interesting and important portions of it. In this circular they remarked that—

The department of the *Political Press*, in its influence on public sentiment, may be regarded as one of the most important in the community. To it the Temperance reform, in its early struggles and subsequent successes, was greatly indebted ; and the adequacy of other means to effect any important revolution in the moral and physical condition of the people, without its co-operation, may be justly doubted.—Every successful effort to enlighten reason awakens reflection, gives elevation to character, and affords greater security for the prevalence of those principles and practices, upon which, in so essential a sense, depend the welfare and happiness of our common country. To your direction is especially intrusted this mighty moral enginery. We, therefore, appeal to your patriotism and philanthropy, for such sympathy and aid as is peculiarly yours to give ; and we do this with the greater confidence and urgency, because, in our judgment, the subject is one deeply affecting all classes, and all interests, and paramount to all party or political considerations.

The Temperance enterprise we regard as established on firm and enduring principles.

Our business is now with the future. We have reached a crisis in our history. The cause has lost its novelty, but none of its importance. We cannot now bring to it the interest of new investigations or new discoveries ; but for future triumphs, with the divine blessing, must chiefly rely upon the diffusion and application of previously established principles.

For this purpose, a national paper is already published, which is also designed to embody public sentiment, chronicle whatever is important to the enterprise, and gather up and concentrate such facts and information as may again be usefully disseminated. To reach all the readers in our great and growing country, is a stupendous work.

But the cause cannot advance except as light is scattered, and the public mind is aroused to the consideration of the subject. And what other means so suited to carry out these views as the political papers



now published? By transferring the matter thus prepared to the columns of the political press, it will be simultaneously spread, in minute portions, to the remotest bounds of the country; and the otherwise vast and impracticable work will be accomplished with ease, precision, and effect. Such, gentlemen, are the objects of this circular, to which we earnestly desire a favourable response.

The probable utility of this division and multiplication of labour, will appear the more striking from the following estimates. Not less than 1200 newspapers are published in the United States, with an average circulation of about 800 each. If each of these papers should republish, in the course of the month, the substance of the articles in each Monthly Temperance Journal, the whole number of political papers, multiplied by the circulation, would publish and disseminate an amount of matter equal to 960,000 copies of the Monthly Temperance Journal! But suppose it were half this amount, what human mind can compute the rich and varied blessings that would be secured to the country, and the world, by such a vast and continuous flood of light?

By this extensive circulation, the means of information on the subject would be placed within the reach of almost every individual throughout our wide-spread country, and the chances of producing salutary impressions be so multiplied, that they who neglect the subject to-day, to-morrow will again have it pressed upon their attention, and thus be followed up from time to time, until it subdues indifference and commands assent. If this plan generally take effect, to the political journals will accrue the honour, and upon them devolve the responsibility, of carrying on and completing the glorious revolution so auspiciously commenced.

We only add, that it is designed to send a copy of the paper containing this circular, to every journal in the Union. And all editors who will send one paper to this office, containing a brief notice of the Journal, in token of acquiescence in the plan suggested, shall, in return, receive the successive numbers of the Temperance Journal, without expectation of exchange.

The invitation thus given, was at once responded to by a large number of respectable editors, into whose papers several of the editorial articles, and much of the Temperance intelligence of the Journal have been admitted. Should the Journal be sustained only as a feeder to other publications, whose editors, with the inclination, have not the time and opportunity to collect facts on this subject, the Committee believe it would be worthy of the support of the Union.

### *Progress of the Cause.*

From extensive observation and inquiry, the Committee are satisfied that the past year has been one of unequalled advancement, both in the developement and reception of Temperance principles, and in the disposition of the community to add to the force of public sentiment the power of law.

*Development of Principle.*

Although for ten years, the PLEDGE, the basis of Temperance action and the bond of union, required only the abandonment of the manufacture, sale, and use of ardent spirit, yet it was early manifest to many reflecting minds, that a further advance must be made, or the great object of the Temperance cause would never be accomplished.

To secure all that should be needful, the Constitution of the American Temperance Society, organized in 1826, was formed "to effect such a change with regard to the use of intoxicating liquors, that Temperance may universally prevail;" and through their clear discernment of what was right, the Pennsylvania Society for Discouraging the Use of Ardent Spirits, in their first Report,\* in 1831, recommended the abandonment of all fermented liquors. A resolution, strong for the time, though meeting only one point, was adopted, in the first National Temperance Convention, held at Philadelphia, in 1833, declaring "That the vital interests and complete success of the Temperance cause demand that, in all the efforts of its friends against the use of ardent spirit, no substitute, except pure WATER, be recommended as a drink."

In a State Temperance Convention, held at Albany, N. Y., February 25, 1834, it was resolved, "That the Convention warmly commend the motives of those who, as an example to the intemperate, or as a means of reclamation, and to avoid offering temptation, do wholly abstain from all that can intoxicate."

In February, 1835, the New York State Society gave instructions, that the Temperance Recorder, their official organ, should henceforth advocate total abstinence from all that can intoxicate.

These instructions met with much resistance, and a Convention was called at Buffalo in the succeeding August, that the public sentiment might be fully expressed. After a long discussion, the Society were fully sustained in the ground they had taken.

From this period, through the columns of the Temperance Recorder and the American Temperance Intelligencer, two monthly publications issued from the press at Albany, light spread rapidly through the land. Good men, reflecting men, extensively saw, that if it was duty to abstain from ardent spirit because it produced drunkenness, and was the cause of an untold amount of pauperism, crime and wretchedness, and destroyed men for both worlds; it was equally duty to abstain from all other drinks that produced the same results.

Habit, appetite, fashion, prejudice and interest began widely to yield; and such men, scattered over the land, soon felt that it was desirable to

\* Appendix, A.

meet together and compare views ; and, if the advance to the pledge of total abstinence from all that intoxicates should be made, make it together, and sustain it as God should enable them.

For this purpose a National Temperance Convention was called, to meet at Saratoga Springs, New York, August 4, 1836.

Three hundred and forty-eight delegates, representing Temperance Societies in nineteen different states and territories, and in Upper and Lower Canada, were present on the occasion. The Hon. Reuben H. Walworth, Chancellor of the state of New York, was chosen president of the Convention. Ex-Gov. Trimble, of Ohio, Bishop Stuart, of Canada, Hon. Samuel M. Pond, of Maine, Rev. Gideon Blackburn, D. D., of Illinois, Hon. James Fowler, of Massachusetts, Samuel Blackwell, Esq., of Virginia, Hon. Phineas White, of Vermont, Vice-presidents.

Rev. John Marsh, of Pennsylvania, Dr. L. A. Smith, of New Jersey, Stephen Fairbanks, of Massachusetts, Dr. Edwin James, of New York, and Rev. R. Child, of Vermont, Secretaries.

During the sittings of this Convention, much light was thrown upon all the subjects which agitated the community, seeking relief from the evils of drunkenness ; and the following, with many other important resolutions, were, with great unanimity, adopted.

*Resolved*,—That the great benefits of the Temperance Reformation are such as call for devout gratitude to the Author of all good ; and for renewed and persevering efforts from all men for the promotion throughout the world of this great and good cause.

*Resolved*,—That the progress which has been effected, wherever suitable efforts have been made during the past year, especially in foreign countries, affords high encouragement to judicious and increased exertions, and gives reason to believe, that with the Divine blessing on human instrumentality, the time may be hastened when drunkenness and its evils shall cease.

*Resolved*,—That the proper means of accomplishing the above-mentioned result, are in our view, abstinence from the use, as a beverage, of intoxicating liquor, and from the making and furnishing of it to be so used by others.

*Resolved*,—That, as intoxicating liquor is a mocker, in proportion as men use it as a beverage, they will not be likely to judge concerning the propriety of thus using it, as they would judge should they not use it.

*Resolved*,—That as abstinence from the use, as a beverage, of intoxicating liquor, is the only course in which it can be rationally expected that intemperate persons can ever be permanently reformed, and as the example and kind moral influence of the temperate is the grand means of leading the intemperate to adopt and pursue a course so essential to their present and future good, the more extensively this course is adopted by the moral part of the community, the more useful, in our view, will be the influence of their example, and the more speedy and universal the triumph of the Temperance cause.

*Resolved*,—That as it is now proved by facts, that intoxicating liquor, as a beverage, is neither needful or useful, as it produces many, and aggravates most of the diseases to which the human frame is liable; as it is the cause of drunkenness and its numerous and appalling evils; we most kindly and affectionately invite all, by abstaining from it, to permit these evils to cease.

*Resolved*,—That, as the prevailing use of intoxicating liquor, as a beverage, tends to blind the understanding, sear the conscience, pollute the affections, harden the heart, and debase all the powers of man; as it produces most of the pauperism and crimes in the community; as it tends to shorten human life, and to ruin the souls of men, it does not appear to us to be right that men should so use it, or furnish it to be so used by others; and we cannot but hope that enlightened friends of humanity will do neither.

*Resolved*,—That we view with special approbation, and hail as a token for good, the formation, on the plan of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquor, as a beverage, of increasing numbers of Temperance Societies, especially among young men; and should the example of that most interesting class of our citizens, be universally followed by the young, it would make them, in this respect, eminently the benefactors of our country and the world.

*Resolved*,—That, in maintaining the propriety and necessity of total abstinence from all that will intoxicate, this Convention make no decision as to the grounds of our united action, because we believe that our harmony and efficiency in the great cause of Temperance, forbids us to conflict, unnecessarily, with those who may differ from us in theory, while we are united in practice.

This decided and harmonious action of so large and respectable a body, gave new vigour and extent to the total abstinence principle.

Several State Societies adopted it without delay. Multitudes of county and local associations extended their pledge. Where such extension was viewed as an *ex post facto* deed upon members of the regular Societies, dissenting from it, and therefore *null and void*, a new organization was formed, yet moving in harmony with the old. In Maine, where a flourishing State Temperance Society existed on the old pledge, from the reluctance of some of its leading members to change, the Maine Temperance Union was organized in 1837, embracing the friends of Temperance in that state, who thought it duty to unite in the total abstinence pledge.

To the adoption of this pledge, one objection offered was, that Temperance men, having signed the former pledge, would, as light shone and duty was manifest, become right in their practice;—but it was found that all did not become right, and that such as did not, hung as a mill-stone upon the cause; that by their use of wine, beer, and cider, they exposed the cause to reproach, themselves to intemperance, and kept the miserable inebriate in his drunkenness.



Another was, that it was not necessary to accomplish the desired result. But it was found that it was necessary; that the yeomanry of the country would not give up their rum and whisky, while Temperance men in the higher ranks drank wine;—that no drunkard could be reformed and saved except on the principle of total abstinence from all that intoxicates; and that the mass of young men in the higher walks of life, in colleges,\* in counting-houses, in the learned professions, who became drunkards, became so on wine, and not on distilled spirits.

Another was, that it destroyed the simplicity of the obligation under which Temperance men had acted, with great harmony and success. But the pledge of total abstinence from all that intoxicates is a much more simple pledge; far more intelligible, and one, as experience has proved, under which all who will,<sup>f</sup> may gather with much greater harmony and success.

Another was, that there is no call for such banishment of wine, beer, and the like, from society, as there is for the banishment of distilled spirits. But alcohol is in all fermented liquors, producing the same effects in kind in the system as when separated by the process of distillation. Nearly all the wines of commerce are brandied; and much of the foreign wine, and wines of home manufacture, are nothing but distilled spirits and drugs. Burton Ale, according to Brande's table, has eight per cent. of alcohol, the intoxicating principle; cider, ten; Champagne wine, eighteen; Sherry, nineteen; Madeira, twenty-four; Port, twenty-three; Lissa, twenty-six; one-half of what is found in whisky, gin, rum and brandy;—while beer, prepared as it often is by *nux vomica*, *coccus indicus*, and grains of paradise, is little behind the strongest drinks in its fatal tendency. For five thousand years, wine was the great source of drunkenness among the nations; and who can deny that there was an amount of the horrid vice under various forms, far exceeding all human conception.

Another was, that it was at variance with the permission of the sacred volume to drink wine, and subversive of a divine ordinance. But it had no relation to a divine ordinance, being only a pledge to abstain from all intoxicating drink, as a beverage; to which every man has a right, even though there were a permission to use it. No command of God makes it the duty of men to eat flesh, though it is permitted. And hence Paul was at liberty to say, "It is good neither to eat flesh nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth;" nor in so abstaining would he reproach the Saviour or subvert a divine ordinance.

Another was, that it was altogether impracticable. But it has been found to be not at all impracticable, but to be far easier gaining signatures to the pledge of entire abstinence from all that intoxicates, than it was originally to the pledge from ardent spirit. In the single State of New York, more than 80,000 signatures, embracing the names of 1,954 clergymen of all denominations, were obtained to that pledge during the last winter; in Illinois, 18,000; in Northern Kentucky, 2000.

Another was, that it would throw off from the Temperance ranks the higher classes, who would not give up their wine; and the farmers, who would not yield their cider. But it was found that many of the higher classes were glad of a change in the habits of society, which would save their sons from ruin; and that such farmers as had ceased using ardent spirit, did not want to be burned up with cider, and rejoiced in a change which saved them great toil, without profit, in the autumnal season; and scenes of riot and drunkenness in their households, during the long evenings of winter.

Another was, that it would create a division in the Temperance ranks, and destroy all activity. But if it has created a division, it has divided men who are resolved to extirpate drunkenness from the earth, cost what it may, from such as plead for a little self-indulgence, and who, by that indulgence, are palsied in their efforts; and, instead of ruining the cause, it has raised up an army who are rushing on to victory. In Boston, four hundred and thirty-five delegates and representatives of various Temperance Societies in Massachusetts, assembled at the Odeon, on the 21st of February, 1838, and continued through that and the following day, until 10 o'clock at night on Thursday, when they adjourned. There was a very animated discussion; and it was conclusively shown that the old pledge, against ardent spirits *only*, could not emancipate the world from the curse of drunkenness, at the present day, any more than it did in the days of Noah and Lot. Not a solitary voice was raised in favour of continuing the old pledge, though it was, by some, doubted if a new State organization was called for. When the question was taken, but two hands were raised in opposition to forming a MASSACHUSETTS TEMPERANCE UNION, with a pledge of entire abstinence from all intoxicating drinks as a beverage.

This step was followed by action which cannot fail to redeem that State from the thralldom of intemperance. A committee of seven was appointed to present a petition to the legislature in session, praying them to repeal all license laws, and make it penal to sell intoxicating drinks, except for the arts. A petition was signed by the members of the convention, and presented next day, and ordered to be printed with the signatures, and referred to a special committee, before whom the



delegates were to appear and advocate the cause of Temperance. Never was it so evident before that that cause was advancing in the State.

In Northern Kentucky, many Societies were formed some years ago on the old pledge, which have nearly all become extinct; but in the present year has been organized the Northern Kentucky Temperance Union, which has combined with gigantic force against the common foe. In New Hampshire, also, has been formed the Young Men's Total Abstinence Union; formed, to act and conquer.

Former years have been years of the discussion and establishment of principles among the few; but the present has witnessed extensively their discussion and reception throughout the land. And it may now safely be affirmed, and the Committee say it with great thankfulness, that,

The useless and uniformly destructive character of alcohol as a beverage, whatever guise it may wear;

Its existence in fermented as well as distilled liquors;\* and

The vile fabrication of wine and beer, by the aid of poisonous drugs;† are well understood by the mass of the community.

They are confident, also, that

The original and philanthropic object of the Temperance reformation, viz: the extirpation of drunkenness;

The fact that no drunkard can be reformed and saved, but in total abstinence from all that intoxicates;

That children and youth form habits of intemperance from the use of the milder stimulants;

That each class of the community must sacrifice its own intoxicating beverage, if they would operate upon other classes; and

That such only as renounce the whole, can clear their skirts of responsibility, in relation to this terrible evil in the community; are each operating to a disuse of all that intoxicates, and an adoption of the pledge, wherever it is offered, by such as truly love their country and their race.

Water, pure water, is once more elevated to the exalted rank given it, at first, by the wise Creator. As light is seen to be well fitted to the eye, and air to the lungs, so water is understood to be adapted to quench the thirst, and aid man in the work of digestion. Every device to improve it by adding that which pleases the taste, only inflicts a curse. In all the toil to procure a better drink, from the day that Noah planted a vineyard to the present time, man has sown to the wind and reaped the whirlwind. Ours is the privileged, the happy day when thousands and millions, looking upon the pure water bubbling

\* Appendix, C.

† Appendix, D.

from the earth, heartily and joyfully echo the decision of Him who best knew what was for our happiness : It is good, very good.\*

### *Efficient Action.*

If in some parts of the country the Temperance cause has partaken of the general stagnation of business, in others there has been an unparalleled efficiency of action ; the more surprising, as the novelty of the cause had passed away. The Committee especially refer to two States ; the State of New York,† where 268,000 Temperance publications have, during the year, been printed and circulated ; 1000 societies have been organized on the comprehensive pledge, and 80,000 signatures obtained ; and the State of Illinois, where, during the same period, 250 societies have been organized, embracing 18,000 members ; and where 774 permanent Temperance documents, 300 Temperance Manuals, 1000 copies of the Temperance Reporter, 1200 numbers of Sargent's Temperance Tales, 46,000 Temperance Almanacs, and 76,000 of the Illinois Temperance Herald, have been put in circulation.

In Tennessee and Massachusetts, also, a powerful influence has been exerted to effect a favourable legislative action ; and in Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Maryland, Delaware, and Rhode Island, the principles of Temperance have been sustained with zeal and efficiency, causing the enemy to complain that every city, every town, every village, and every neighbourhood, is disturbed by this unrelenting, uncompromising foe to unlawful gain and loathsome drunkenness.

The Committee notice with pleasure the Temperance papers published in the United States and in Canada, all advocating the Total Abstinence pledge, and all sustained with industry and ability. Able lecturers and speakers have been found in various parts of the country, discussing and advocating the cause ; and the distinguished author of the Temperance Tales, has continued to portray, with a philanthropy, industry, and ability, which has called forth the admiration and gratitude of thousands, the arts of the destroyer, the misery of the drunkard and his family, and the blessings of the Temperance reformation.‡

### *Use of Fruit and Grain.*

The introduction of the Total Abstinence principle was early met with the inquiry, What shall be done with the fruit, especially the apple, so abundantly bestowed upon us by the Almighty ? Shall it be destroyed beyond its domestic use ? Or shall it be left to perish on the ground ? Why all this waste ? Is it not sinful ? Some felt that they were called, in the providence of God, at once to root out their super-

\* Appendix, E.

† Appendix, F.

‡ Appendix, G.

abundant orchards, and devote the soil to grass and grain, for the support of man and beast. And there is good reason to suppose that in the great cider districts of the country, man's appetite for this corrosive beverage had led many to err in this wide appropriation of beautiful fields.

But such an act of destruction was found not to be demanded. Experiment early proved that the apple might most profitably be employed, from its first formation to its full growth, and to the midst of winter, in the fattening of cattle and swine. And so readily and extensively has it thus been appropriated, that the gain, in the past year, from this one source, to the farmers in the single state of New York, has been estimated, and the estimate has not been disputed, at more than a million dollars.

Thus does Providence stop the mouths of gainsayers, who affirm that total abstinence from the intoxicating cup impoverishes man, and is an ungrateful rejection of the bounties of heaven.

The friends of Temperance have continued to be faithful, it is believed, in withholding their grain from the brewer and the distiller.

The discovery of the Arab, once thought a blessing to the country, when we kindled up our 40,000 fires, and poured forth poison as Niagara does her waters, is now seen to be its greatest curse. And from every part of the land comes up the inquiry which was put by the great Berkely a century ago, "Why should such a canker be tolerated in the vitals of a state, under any pretence whatever? Better, by far, that the whole race of distillers were pensioners of the public, and their trade abolished by law, since all the benefits thereof put together, would not balance the hundredth part of the mischief."

The remedy is found in that public sentiment, which will neither taste the liquor nor furnish the material for its manufacture. This sentiment in the state of New York, has reduced the number of distilleries from 1300 to less than 200; in Western Pennsylvania, once the seat of a whisky rebellion, to almost a nullity. Within a few months, the great whisky manufactory at Athens, Illinois, which consumed at the rate of 36,000 bushels of grain annually, making 3,650 barrels of whisky, has been closed from principle. Not an iota will the owner sell to be appropriated again to the same purpose.

The Committee doubt not that the wanton destruction of millions of bushels of grain during the recent distress throughout the land for bread, has strengthened the public indignation against these establishments.—And why should it not? Had an equal number of men, as have been employed in the distilleries and breweries, gone through the land and destroyed twenty-five millions bushels of grain, grasped every cargo of rye as it arrived from foreign countries, and thrown it into the ocean,

or even done a third of this mischief, when the poor, the widow and the orphan, were crying for bread and there was none, the blood would have been up to the horses' bridles.

An infuriated mob, in the late season of distress, broke in upon a flour establishment in the city of New York, which was merely hoarding the article on the common principles of speculation, threw it into the streets, and trod it in the dust; an act which drew at once the sword of the magistrate: while, at the same time, the distilleries in New York and its vicinity, were consuming ten thousand bushels of corn and rye daily, or three million bushels yearly, and the breweries an immense quantity of other nutritious grains; yea, worse than consuming, drawing from them a liquid poison which would destroy the health, the reason, the morals of the community, and fill almshouses, penitentiaries, and graveyards, with depraved, degraded, ruined victims: and yet none might say, Why do ye thus? But the public indignation has burned against them; and it will burn against them more and more, till the distiller and the brewer, and their families, can no longer stand in respectable society;—till they flee with their establishments from the country to the cities; and, in the cities, work in the dark like the counterfeiter—unknown—irresponsible—holding communion only with invisible spirits, with death and hell.

The Committee have evidence satisfactory to themselves, that the home manufactory of ardent spirit has diminished in the past year, at least thirty-three per cent., and will diminish more and more as the community shun the use of factitious wines, for which it is now extensively sustained; and that the breweries of the country are, in many cases, a weight too heavy to be borne by those who sustain them.

So far as alcohol is needful or useful in the arts or in medicine—though it is so, compared with its manufacture, but to a small extent—let it be made; but as the distillery and the brewery minister to man's destruction, the Committee call upon every friend of humanity, to engage against all such establishments in an unflinching war of extermination; not by persecution, but simply by total abstinence from all supplies of grain, of fuel, of labour, and from all they make or sell, their drink, their meat, their milk,\* their refuse grain, their manure. Let them alone! Let them stand like the pest-house, frequented only by those for whom they were built, for drunkards and their owners; and, with them, they soon will fall into the gulf of oblivion.

#### *Legislative Action.*

The advance in the past year, and, indeed, in the past few months, toward efficient legislative action, has been unexpected and highly gratifying.

\* Appendix, H.



It was clear to reflecting men, that the law-makers of our land had laboured under a delusion in the belief that, while the promiscuous sale of spirituous liquors should not be open to all, the public good required that it be committed to a few ;—

That the object which was aimed at by such committal, viz., the curtailment of intemperance, vice, and misery, had wholly failed ;—

That, while the acts of legislation had been, in respect to the community at large, prohibitory, they had been to the vender protective ;

That, while every spot of our republic had been cursed with a licensed retailer, the license protected from opprobrium, and quieted conscience ;

And, since no restriction was laid upon the quantity sold, only upon the persons selling, it was doubtful whether there would have been more intemperance in the land under an unlimited sale, than actually existed.

It was also manifest, that all past legislation on the subject was grossly inconsistent ;—

That snares were spread by our law-makers, and men were punished for falling into them ;—

That pauperism, crime, and insanity were caused by men commissioned for the work, while the statute book was filled with devices to check and remedy the evils, and the people were burdened with taxes to support them.

Hence it was plain that all such legislation should cease ; and, on the principle, that every community is bound to protect itself from evil, and preserve its population from waste, that the retail of spirituous liquors, as a beverage, should be prohibited by law.

But such views are slow of access to a community wedded to old systems, and blinded by interest and appetite. A star of hope, however, appeared in the numerous petitions, signed by thousands of respectable and influential citizens, praying their legislatures for a remodification or repeal of the license system.

These petitions and memorials spoke a language which could not be misunderstood, and came from sources which could not be treated with neglect or contempt.

Said numerous petitioners, male and female, of the county of Portage, to the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Ohio, February, 1838 :—

Your petitioners respectfully state—That among the scourges which have heretofore desolated and now are afflicting our common country, no one can be named which bears rivalry with the *use of intoxicating liquors*.

The history of the world coincides with the observation of every ingenuous and philosophic mind, in fully attesting the fact, that their use as a beverage, by persons in health, is ever pernicious, never beneficial, and that with few exceptions, the individual habitually using them

soon becomes a drunkard,—and hence ours has, for years, been styled “a nation of drunkards.” The use of such liquors, as a *beverage*, is therefore intemperance,—and he who speaks of their “moderate” or “temperate” use, abuses reason, despises truth, and perverts language.

Without a single redeeming trait, their sole and entire aim is to ruin and destroy the human species. They begin their work by changing man into a brute—continue it, by transforming him into a monster,—and abandon him only when he has ceased to breathe. However viewed, and wherever found, intemperance, in its beginning, its progress, and its end, is everywhere marked by desolation and wo. Alcohol, both in name and in truth, is the poison of our species. Chymical analysis, and physiological experiment, have established beyond controversy, that alcohol, received into the stomach, remains *unchanged—unassimilated*—and as such, travels with the blood through the various arteries, veins, and organs of the system, not as blood, nor as its fit companion, but as a murderous associate—a treacherous highwayman, charged with poison and commissioned to destroy.

In its journey round, it feeds upon the liver—corrodes the lungs—burns the stomach—ruins the appetite—impairs digestion—discolours and vitiates the blood—defiles the breath—crimsons the nose—parches the lips—blisters the tongue—scalds the throat—husks the voice—bloats the face—dims the eye—wastes the muscles—palsies the limbs—deranges the nerves—and consumes the heart;—and as though its warrant was not yet fully executed, a detached portion of it aims at the head—breaks through its delicate vessels—crowds out reason—and takes up its poisonous, sacrilegious residence on the brain, and fears not to profane Divinity’s earthly temple. What wonder, then, that the spirit-drinker is a maniac !

But even now its baneful work is hardly begun. Having thus undermined the health, and prepared the system for the ravages of disease, it strikes at the moral and intellectual powers of man. It enfeebles the understanding—impairs the judgment—effaces the memory—extinguishes sensibility—pollutes the imagination—depraves the taste—stupifies conscience—annihilates honour—prostrates self-respect—debases the social affections—sours the disposition—inflames the wicked passions—dethrones the reason—and contaminates the heart,—and thus quenches rational life, and blots out the moral image of Deity’s handiwork. Why, therefore, must not the intemperate man become a human fiend ? Who is safe where he is ?

And yet its march of ruin is onward still ? It reaches abroad to others—invades the family and social circle—and spreads wo and sorrow all around. It cuts down youth in its vigour—manhood in its strength—and age in its weakness. It breaks the father’s heart—bereaves the doating mother—extinguishes natural affection—erases conjugal love—blots out filial attachment—blights parental hope—and brings down mourning age in sorrow to the grave. It produces weakness, not strength ; sickness, not health ; death, not life. It makes wives, widows—children, orphans—fathers, fiends—and all of them, paupers and beggars. It hails fevers—feeds rheumatisms—nurses gout—welcomes epidemics—invites the cholera—imports pestilence, and embraces consumptions. It covers the land with idleness, poverty,



disease, and crime. It fills your jails—supplies your almshouses—and demands your asylums. It engenders controversies—fosters quarrels—and cherishes riots. It contemns law—spurns order—and loves mobs. It crowds your penitentiaries—and furnishes the victims for your scaffolds. It is the lifeblood of the gambler—the aliment of the counterfeiter—the prop of the highwayman—and the support of the midnight incendiary.

It countenances the liar—respects the thief—and esteems the blasphemer. It violates obligation—reverences fraud—and honours infamy. It defames benevolence—hates love—accuses virtue—and slanders innocence. It incites the father to butcher his offspring—helps the husband to massacre his wife—and aids the child to grind his parricidal axe. It burns up man—consumes woman—detests life—curses God—and despises heaven.

It suborns witnesses—nurses perjury—defiles the jury box—and stains the judicial ermine. It bribes votes—disqualifies voters—corrupts elections—pollutes our institutions—and endangers our government. It degrades the citizen—debases the legislator—dishonours the statesman—and disarms the patriot. It brings shame, not honour; terror, not safety; despair, not hope; misery, not happiness. And now, as with the malevolence of a fiend, it calmly surveys its frightful desolations; still *insatiate* with havoc, it poisons felicity—kills peace, ruins morals, blights confidence—slays reputations—and wipes out national honour;—then, curses the world—and laughs at its ruins.

Humanity now asks, and patriotism and philanthropy earnestly inquire—shall it? must it continue longer in our free, but abused country? and if so, *why?* what *good* has it done? what good *can* it effect? *whom* can it benefit, and *how?*

Against this hydra, intemperance, the best efforts of the virtuous, the benevolent, and the patriotic have for years been arrayed—and we doubt not, a large portion of your honourable body are enlisted in the same hallowed cause. We solicit then, your assistance. We implore your aid to protect us against this destroyer of our species—this common enemy of the human race. It was to effect purposes, and extend protection like this now solicited, that government was established. It is in accomplishing objects so noble, so kind, and so virtuous, that legislatures are honoured, and their enactments highly respected.

The Convention of more than four hundred delegates of Temperance Societies, assembled in Boston for the purpose of forming a State Temperance Society on Total Abstinence principles, February 21st, 1838, unanimously memorialized the legislature of Massachusetts, in the following language:

*To the Honourable the Senate, and House of Representatives of Massachusetts, in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned, citizens of Massachusetts, ask leave to call the attention of your honourable body to the laws now existing in this commonwealth, licensing the sale of intoxicating liquors, for drink, to the injury, as your memorialists conceive, of the individual—both buyer

and seller—and to the serious detriment of the best interests of the State.

It is not the purpose of your memorialists to call into question the patriotism of those men by whom, in former days, those laws were first made, or of those by whom they have since been modified. In their day, they, doubtless, acted according to their light. We wish that they who shall come after us, may be able to bear witness for us, that we have acted according to ours.

We do not propose to exhibit to your body a picture of drunkenness, in any of its degrees, or of its effects upon the miserable victim, or upon the, often, more miserable ones who are bound to him by the ties of family, or of society. Your own eyes, when directed to the subject of human misery in this community, to its objects and its sources, will be struck by more appalling scenes than any that we could paint; nor when you see and consider them, will you ask us for evidence that, with comparatively few exceptions, misery flows, directly, or by necessary consequence, from intoxicating drinks. These the laws of our commonwealth allow to be sold for the express purpose of being drunk; and this, too, now that we know, as our fathers did not, that they are always poisonous to the human system; and that, in just the degree in which they are drunk, they are destructive to the bodily and mental energies, the moral character, the highest interests of every one who drinks them.

We respectfully ask, Is it RIGHT to license man thus to mar the image of God in his brother man? right to give him authority thus "to sell insanity," and deal out sure destruction? If it *is* right, why should any man be forbidden to do it? If *not* right, why should any be permitted? Why forbid all but "men of sober life and conversation" to do this, if it is right? Why allow men of sober life and conversation to do it, if it is wrong? Will the poison be less active, or less fatal, if it is dealt out with a steady hand? Will the buyer be the less drunken, because the seller is a sober man? May this pollution be poured out upon society only by clean hands? Or, is it the presumption of the law that, in such hands, it will do no harm; that a man "of good moral character" will sell, not to drunkards, but to sober men like himself? Is it, then, more "for the public good" that the sober men of the commonwealth should be made drunkards, than that they who are already drunkards, should remain such? Can that which always works private evil, conduce to public good? Can that which is bad for all the parts be good for the whole? Can evil be converted into good by multiplication? Can wrong be legislated into right?

Under the laws of this commonwealth, the *body* of the citizen (unless, indeed, he be poor and in debt,) is jealously protected. Not a hair of his head can, with impunity, be harmed. The law lifts up its trumpet voice against personal injury, so long as it is *merely* physical. But, when the physical evil becomes linked in with moral—when the destroyer takes hold of soul and body together, to drag them into the pit—then the arrows of the law are returned into their quiver; its thunders are laid aside; and its shield is spread over the pit into which they both go down!

It may be too much to expect from human laws, that they protect the

morals of society from corruption, and even from temptation. But *is* it too much to ask, that they will not *throw open* the doors of temptation, and hold them open, that the "simple ones" may go down through them into the chambers of death? Is it too much to ask, that the sale of intoxicating drink may be prohibited by penal laws? It is said, we are aware, that this will be an infringement of the citizen's rights. We answer, then are those rights already infringed. All, but a few, are already forbidden, by penal statute, to retail ardent spirits. Is it a greater infringement of rights, or a bolder stretch of power, to restrain the few, of "good moral character," than it is to restrain the many of an opposite description?

Again, may not our neighbours, our children, be protected by penal statute from "practices against their health" and life, as well as the lower orders of creation? By penal statute, we protect our *fish* from poison; why not our *men*? By penal statute—by a thousand dollars fine and a year's imprisonment in the county jail—we punish the man who shall "expose *any poisonous substance* with the intent that the same should be *taken and swallowed* by a neighbour's cattle." Why not, then, if "with the intent that it be taken and swallowed," by the neighbour himself? So that sickness, delirium, death ensue, what matters it by what name the draught be called? To the sufferer, or to society, is the injury the less, because the delirium is longer continued, and the death-pains more protracted? If I be willingly accessory to my brother's death, by a pistol or cord, the law holds me guilty; but guiltless if I mix his death-drink in a cup. The halter is my reward if I bring him his death in a bowl of hemlock; if in a glass of spirits, I am rewarded with his purse. Yet, who would not rather die—who would not rather see his child die, by hemlock than by rum? The law raises me a gallows if I set fire to my neighbour's house, though not a soul perish in the flames; but I may throw a torch into his household—I may lead his children through a fire more consuming than Moloch's—I may make his whole family a burnt-offering upon the altar of Mammon, and the same law holds its shield between me and harm. It has installed me in my office, and it comes in to protect, alike, the priest, "the altar, and the god." For the *victims* it has no sympathies: for them it provides neither ransom nor avenger.

But there *is* an AVENGER. While these sacrifices are smoking on their thousand altars, through the length and breadth of our land, the Ruler of the nations is bringing upon us the penalties of his laws, in the consequences of breaking them. Even now, he who renders to every land, as to every man, according to his works, is showing us that he is as strict to visit with suffering those who violate his organic and moral laws, as he is ready to accumulate good upon those who observe them. The fields of our great country, which He has charged with the elements of plenty; which are every year waiting to be bountiful; which He waters, "that they may bud and bring forth, and give seed to the sower and bread to the eater," are becoming like the field of the slothful man of old. They are "overgrown with thorns; nettles are covering the face thereof; and the stone walls thereof are broken down." The hand and the mind of the cultivator are struck with the palsy of intemperance. A great portion of the bread corn which the



land—grateful for even niggardly culture—pours into the husbandman's bosom, is snatched from his children's mouths for the craving maw of the distillery; and when that, which God gave as the supporter of life, has been converted into its destroyer, the vessels that waft the destruction to the nations on the Baltic, the Mediterranean, and the Black Sea, bring back from those nations, and at their own price, the very bread of which we have first robbed ourselves, in order that we may ruin them.

Nor does the temperate and industrious citizen, who sees the execution of these laws of a righteous God, escape his full share of their penalties; for, while his heart is made to bleed at the sight of the sufferings which the demon Intemperance is scattering broad-cast around him; while he feels himself discouraged and humbled, that while his own hand and voice are lifted up against the destroyer, they are lifted up in vain, for that the destroyer is still upheld by the laws; his purse is made to bleed as freely as his heart, in the form of "poor-rates," and augmented prices. He must feed a drunken neighbour's family, and at the same time pay double price for the bread that feeds his own.

Your memorialists feel that, on this subject, it is not more their right than it is their duty to remonstrate. Would those who throw this stumbling-block in their brothers' way, take care of such as fall over it, or could the curse of drunkenness be confined to its own ranks, and the dead be made to bury their dead, the evil *might* be borne; though borne, even then, with a profound sorrow, with a divine pity, for those who had fallen under the curse. Even then, philanthropy, which is but another name for the Christian spirit, would prompt us to intercede for our suffering brethren, and to plead with those who legislate for the *common* weal, entreating them to interpose all the barriers in their power to keep back the waves of this destruction. But so it is not: so it cannot be. In the body politic, "if one member suffer, all the members suffer with it." If the laws of a Christian state *will* open these seminaries of poverty, vice, and sorrow, the same laws *must* open near them, to receive their graduates, almshouses, criminal courts, penitentiaries, prisons, and sepulchres. And, while these are fitting up, and filling up, the earnings of the industrious, the savings of the prudent, *must* be taken from their pockets, by the hand of the same laws, to guard and support them.

Your memorialists are aware—we use the words of the chief magistrate of a sister state—that "The cause of Temperance, and that philanthropic movement which has already done so much to check the ravages of that fell destroyer of individual health and happiness, and that prolific source of crime and misery, Intemperance, depend mainly for their ultimate and perfect success, upon moral causes; but they may, yet, receive aid and support from legal enactments." Your memorialists believe that such enactments would now be regarded with favour by the great mass of this community; and, even if they are not in all cases enforced, that they would yet do much to check the evil which all good men deplore. Your memorialists, therefore, pray that *all* laws authorizing the sale of intoxicating drinks, within this commonwealth, may be repealed; and that such sale may be made penal, with such exceptions and under such conditions as to your honourable body may seem good. And your petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

These, and similar memorials to other legislatures, have been committed to special committees to report thereon. The committee of the legislature of Maine reported February 24, 1837 :

A proposition materially to change a system which has for years been incorporated with state legislation, and which is intimately connected with various important interests in the state, should receive more than common attention. Impressed with the importance of the subject submitted to them, the committee have endeavoured to present as ample a view of the question, as the time and means which they had at command would allow.

Laws granting license to sell ardent spirits, have been enacted in every state in the Union ; and so far as the committee know, they are, at this time, under different forms, in operation in every state. The first license law of Massachusetts was passed in the year 1646, and although from that time until the present, they have been variously altered and changed, yet, at this very time, the license laws of Maine are substantially what they were at first—*they authorize the sale of ardent spirits for common use*. This is the principle that gives them character. The manner of granting the license, or the form of the law, are circumstances of little or no moment.

These laws, then, have been in active operation nearly two centuries ; and this period seems sufficient for a full and fair trial : and what is the history of this experiment ? When the law was first made, intemperance was of rare occurrence, and was designed, as appears, to prevent rather than cure the evil. From that time, until the Temperance reformation, as it is sometimes called, we gradually, but constantly, increased in the use of ardent spirits, and became more and more intemperate, until we were reproached, by some foreign writers, as a nation of drunkards. Although other causes, no doubt, were in operation, yet there are many reasons for the opinion, that these laws were the principal cause of the result. They make it lawful and reputable, for the person who has a license, to sell it, and of course not improper nor dishonourable to purchase and use it. The law also asserts the necessity and usefulness of ardent spirits, and makes provision that the whole community may be supplied ; and, as if to give importance to the article, and respectability to the traffic, it provides that the vender shall be “ of sober life and conversation, and of good moral character, and suitably qualified for the employment.”

We shall not question that it was the design of the license laws, to regulate and restrict the sale of ardent spirit, and even to prevent its abuse ; but our present inquiry is not into the design, but the actual tendency of the law. This, we believe, has been to promote intemperance, to give it being, and to continue it down to the present time. It first assumes that, which the united testimony of physicians, and thousands of others have proved to be false, that alcohol is necessary for common use ; and then makes provision that there shall be no deficiency, by making it the interest of a select few to keep it for sale.—The mere circumstance whether few or many kept it for sale is unimportant, provided those who were licensed, kept sufficient to supply the demand. It is the inevitable tendency of the shop and bar-room, to

decoy men from themselves and their self-control ; and our whole experience under the license laws of the state, has proved how hopeless it is that such plans should exist, and men not become intemperate. If the poison was not freely offered, and offered for sale under the sanction of law, it could not—it would not be purchased.

The best test of the utility of any law is experience ; and by this rule the license law has been most satisfactorily tried : and there is no reason for supposing that the amount of ardent spirits used has been less, but rather that the consumption was much greater in consequence of the law ; for the law has given character and respectability to the traffic, and has done much to fix, on the minds of the public, the impression that rum was necessary, and that the public good required it.

Go to the retailer, and beseech him to empty his shop of the poison, and he will tell you it is his regular lawful business, that he is as much opposed to intemperance as you are, and that he always withholds the cup from the drunkard. You again appeal to his sympathy, and point him to the consequences of the traffic on all who use the article. He again replies, that the law has determined that a certain number of retailers are necessary to the *public good*, that he has paid his fee, and got his license in his pocket, and that he cannot be answerable for consequences. Now it is very plain that the retailer is right, unless the law is wrong. Repeal the present law, and prohibit the sale, and then every man who ventured to sell rum, would be obliged to do it on his own responsibility : he could not plead the statute, nor throw off the reproach upon the state.

It was seen, many years since, that no strictness of regulations could prevent abuse or violation of the laws ; yet, strange as it may appear, the legislature did not at once prohibit the traffic, but proceeded to cure the mischief by further regulations, under penalties most strict and severe. But these regulations only served to keep alive and augment the evil. And how could it have been otherwise ? It is repugnant to the first perceptions of common sense, to suppose that a man who merely obtained a license, could *innocently* sell strong water, the name first given to rum in the colony laws, and that another man could be justly liable to whipping, which was ordered by one act, for selling it without license. The same may be observed of our present laws : they are absurd on the face of them. The people will never be satisfied, that if the taverner may rightfully vend the article by the glass, to the ruin of his neighbour, it is criminal for the retailer to do the same.

We, therefore, may consider it settled, that all attempts to discriminate between the licensed and unlicensed vender, are utterly futile and vain. And as long as it is considered right and proper to grant licenses, just so long intemperance will continue to fill our jails, and poorhouses, and penitentiaries. It is not a thing indifferent in itself, whether the traffic be licensed or not, and that may be made right or wrong by the arbitrary enactments of legislation. The trade, except for medicinal and manufacturing purposes, is morally and politically wrong, and no law or legislation can change its essential character.

Complaints are frequently made against our public officers, such as selectmen, &c., that they license too many, and among them many unsuitable persons, and that it is only necessary to enforce the present



laws. This complaint is unfounded. The blame attaches to the law, and not to the public officer. We have no right to expect that selectmen, or other officers, will be either wiser or better than the law. It is their duty to execute, and not to make or alter the law.

In speaking of the license laws, however, we would by no means reflect improperly upon the character of those who established them.—Our fathers were men of the loftiest patriotism and the sternest moral virtue. They knew the evils and sinfulness of intemperance; and these laws were designed to secure the people against both: and had they also known that ardent spirits were entirely useless—that a license to vend them would entail on the community poverty and crime, and every evil work—there are strong reasons for believing, from what we know of their laws in other analogous cases, that they would have prohibited the sale entirely.

But they were mistaken in relation to the nature of alcohol, and assumed that it was useful and necessary; and, under this mistake, they undertook to regulate the traffic in the best way they could. With the present age the case is far otherwise. It is now ascertained, not only that the traffic is attended with most appalling evils to the community, but that ardent spirit is entirely useless—that *it is an unmingled evil*. This fact—and it is the basis of this report—is certain. It is made out by the strictest scrutiny into the properties of alcohol, and by the experience and observation of thousands, in every situation in life, and under circumstances most favourable to an accurate judgment; and how any man, with the evidence before him which a few past years has supplied, can now question its truth, it is difficult to conceive. We are placed, therefore, in relation to this subject, in circumstances very different from those which existed when the laws were first made. We have some facts which they who made them did not have. And must the laws remain the same, notwithstanding we have ascertained that they are founded in error? Shall we not alter and frame them to correspond to fact? If it is found that the bar-room and grog-shop are subversive of the public good, may we not say so? Shall we not shut them up? Shall we not cover the fountain whose pestilential streams have spread through all this fair country, exhaling, in their course, disease, and desolation, and death?

The objections, then, to license laws are these:

They assert or imply what is false in point of fact, viz: that ardent spirit is useful and necessary:

2d. That all laws are necessarily of injurious tendency, which directly legalize any trade or business which is in itself destructive of the peace and virtue of society:

3d. That the manner in which the traffic is regulated, is suited to give character and reputation to the trade, and, of course, to extend its evils far and wide:

4th. These laws oppose an insuperable obstacle to the cause of Temperance: so long as these laws exist, just so long intemperance will abound.

Your committee are not only of opinion that the law giving the right to sell ardent spirits should be repealed, but that a law should be passed to prohibit the traffic in them; except so far as the arts or the practice

of medicine may be concerned. The reasons for such a law are as numerous as the evils of intemperance. Such a law is required for the same reason that we make a law to prevent the sale of unwholesome meats ; or the law for the removal of any nuisance ; or any other laws which have for their object to secure the good people of the state in the quiet and peaceable enjoyment of their rights, and against any practice that endangers the health and life of the citizen, or which threatens to subvert our civil rights and overthrow our free government. We would prohibit the sale of ardent spirits, because intemperance can never be suppressed without such prohibition. There is no more reason for supposing that this evil can be restrained without law, than for supposing you can restrain theft, or gambling, or any other crime, without law.

But your committee do not admit that such a law could not be enforced ; although it is probable there would be many evasions of it. At a time when so many are interested in the subject of Temperance, it is impossible that such a law should be generally disregarded. One important effect would be to render the traffic disreputable, as well as unlawful. No individual, who had any respect for his character, would continue the practice. There are many respectable dealers, who are now desirous of excluding ardent spirits from their shops, but who under the operation of the present laws, find it almost impracticable to do so ; for by breaking off they would not only loose the profits of this article, but they would sacrifice no inconsiderable portion of their business in other respects. This is known to be the fact by numerous trials.

Why should the power to execute the law be questioned in this case more than any other ? This is never suggested in respect to any other law that is thought needful for the public welfare ; nor is the objection well founded. But suppose the law we have in view should be sometimes violated ; this would be no sufficient objection to making it ; for what law is there which men keep perfectly ? But we are not left to conjecture on this point. We have a law to prevent gambling in this state ; now the effect of this law has not been to banish gambling from the state ; but it has had the effect to prevent or greatly restrain the evil. It is considered disgraceful to keep a gambling-house, and gamblers are unwilling to be known in this character ; hence they seek the darkness of the night and secluded places for their purpose, and the community are generally thus saved from the pernicious influence of their example. Now suppose instead of this law, prohibiting gambling, we had a statute to regulate gambling by granting licenses to open gambling-shops in every part of the state ; and it would be much less demoralizing, and not more unreasonable than the rum laws ; What, your committee ask, would be the effect of such a law ? Can any one doubt that gambling-shops would be as common as retail shops now are ? It is in vain, therefore, to object to a law that it cannot prevent the offence it prohibits. We have a law against theft, but have we no larcenies ? Yet who would be secure in his property without the law. So it is believed that a law to prevent the sale of ardent spirits would have the most salutary influence. It would then be as disgraceful to keep a rum-shop as a gambling-shop. Besides, the mere existence of such a law would exert the most salutary influence on the public mind. It would

of itself go to correct public opinion in regard to the necessity of ardent spirits ; for it is not more true that the laws are an expression of public opinion, than that they influence and determine public opinion. They are as truly the cause as the effect of the popular will. It is of the nature of law, to mould the public mind to its requirements, and to fasten upon all an abiding impression of its value and necessity.

It may be objected that, we have already tried in numerous cases, to stay the progress of intemperance, by enforcing the law, but that it is found by long experience to be wholly ineffectual. This objection arises from a strange misapprehension of our license laws. The fact, we reply, is not true. We have no law against selling rum—we never had a law the most perfect observance of which would have secured this community against intemperance. All our laws, as before observed, authorize the sale and use of the article. The difficulty is not, that the law has not been enforced ; but it is, that when executed it has no tendency to prevent the evil. And we do not complain of the present laws merely that they are imperfect, but that they are radically bad,—that they are founded on principles totally deceptive and false. The present laws are sufficiently strict and severe, not however, against selling rum, but only against unlicensed venders. They proceed upon the supposition that if men and their families are ruined by the retail shops—if our prisons are filled with felons, and our poorhouses with paupers, it is no great matter, if only it be done according to law.

The truth is, the license laws do not, even as a rule of action, prescribe Temperance. In this particular they are an anomaly. All good and wholesome laws, *prescribe* at least, what is right and forbid what is wrong. They raise the standard high, and caution, and warn, and forbid ; and all who observe them are secure ; if their penalty fall on any, it is through their own folly in disregarding the law. Not so with the rum laws, in their spirit and letter, whether executed or not executed, whether obeyed or disobeyed, their only effect is to destroy. The path they mark out, is not the path of truth and safety, of virtue and happiness ; but it is the highway of deception, and anger, and tears, and wretchedness, and blood—it is covered, in its whole extent, by the mangled and dying, and with the carcasses of dead men,—it leads to ruin and its steps take hold on the grave.

It may also be objected that the legislature have no constitutional right to enact a prohibitory law—that it would be oppressive and an encroachment on the rights of the citizens.

The history of our state government is but the history of measures and expedients, having for their object the security and happiness of the whole people. But no law can be enacted for their objects, which does not in some form or other operate as a restraint upon every man in society. We will take only one example. The law of the road is perfectly arbitrary, for there is no reason in the case itself, why a traveller when he meets another, should turn to the right rather than to the left ; and yet who denies either the constitutionality or utility of the law ? And there are many other statutes which operate to restrain the citizen, in certain actions, which in themselves are not necessarily wrong, but which, unrestrained, might prove detrimental to the interests of the state at large.



But it is too late to deny the right of the legislature on this subject. It has already in numerous cases legislated on the sale of ardent spirits, and their acts have received the sanction of the highest judicial authorities. What are the present laws but a prohibition of the traffic to all who do not first obtain a license? It is only necessary to extend the prohibition to every citizen, and the whole object is at once obtained. And it appears evident to the committee, that if we have any law on the subject it should be absolutely prohibitory. The trade is a public evil or it is not; if it is, it is the right and duty of the legislature to stay it at once, if it is not an evil, it should be equally free to all.

But the trade in ardent spirits is a public business carried on in the market-places; and if it is found by experience that this business is necessarily ruinous to individuals, and a great public nuisance, there can be no question, that it clearly comes within the right of the legislature to suppress it. We would not prohibit the sale of ardent spirits, because it is inconsistent with our religious and moral obligations—although doubtless this is the fact—but because the traffic is inconsistent with our obligations as citizens of the state, and subversive of our social rights and civil institutions.

But we have yet to learn what authority it is, that would be violated by an act to prohibit the sale of ardent spirits; not surely the state constitution, for that has no provision that can be so construed as to limit the legislature in this matter. Nor the federal constitution; unless it is supposed the power to collect a revenue is of this character. But what if Congress, under this provision of the federal constitution, does authorize the importation of rum or brandy into the state of Maine, and the collection of a duty on the same; how is this inconsistent with the right of the state to prohibit its sale here? The merchant is not obliged to import the article, and if he does, he must take the chance of being able to vend it. Indeed, it would be a most extraordinary fact, if in the grants made to the Congress of the United States, the people of the several states had not reserved sufficient power to provide for their own internal quiet and security;—not sufficient to regulate or prohibit any traffic which might destroy the peace and endanger the lives of the citizens.

The committee of the legislature of Tennessee, in the same year, reported a bill for the repeal of the existing laws authorizing persons to retail spirits, and an amendment of the existing laws so as to impose an increased fine upon all persons guilty of such offence. They said—

Since the passage of the act of 1831, many tippling-houses have been fitted up in a style so handsome, as to have become places of fashionable resort. There you often meet those who fill the highest official stations in the state. There the moral, the temperate, and even the religious are frequently seen: and finally, it may now be said, that there may be found at such places, an indiscriminate associate of every grade. Such a state of things could not have happened, if tippling-houses had not been legalized. It is the law which makes these haunts comfortable, alluring, and respectable, by shielding their owners from censure and from punishment. It is the law which has removed all restraint from those who are visitors to such establishments, and sanc-

tifies their conduct. Your committee are warranted in saying, that nothing would be more easy than to put an end to good morals, if the legislature would license vice, and remove the legal barriers against crime. When tippling was licensed, it was a legal invitation to all men to drink ; this is a fair inference, and one that cannot be resisted.

Let us test the operation of this most extraordinary license further, and see its effects. Previously to the act of 1831, every one who entered a tippling-house was visiting a man who was daily and hourly committing an offence against the laws of the country. In other words, it was a house forbidden. In fact, it was a house of crime, because against law. The business was usually done with closed doors. This prevented the moral portion of community, and the youth of the country, from giving their attendance except in rare cases. How stands the matter now ? Your committee have already shown the general outlines, but beg leave to note some of the more striking features, especially as to young gentlemen. Before the act of 1831, it would have been considered disgraceful for a youth to call at a grocery and purchase a half pint of whiskey ; but in these times, it is not only excused in the eyes of the world, but seems to give consequence and character to the beardless boy, who can drink most at the tippling-house, and treat his friends to the best the place affords. All this has been brought about by law, and the influence of example. The intoxicating draught is not only abundant and cheap, but, like justice, is carried almost to every man's door, and issued out without stint, denial, or delay. Your committee speak within the bounds of truth, when they assert, that tippling-houses have increased five-fold since the general law licensing their erection. The signs salute the eyes of everybody on every side of the public square of most of the county towns, in all of the country villages, and at the fork and cross of many of the public roads throughout the state.

Perhaps of all the evils of the law establishing tippling-houses, that of placing one in every neighbourhood is the greatest, as they are at once within the range of the aged ; the young, the halt ; the blind ; and lastly, the slaves, who could not otherwise have access to them ; and who, in their turn, drown here their cares in the flowing bowl. Tippling-houses are the receptacles of all the petty vices and immoralities that infect the community, as gaming, drunkenness, fraud, profanity, and lewdness, which have such a blighting influence on the rising generation, and which young men from indiscretion and inexperience are too apt to embrace, if frequent temptations offer. Almost all the quarrels, strifes, and atrocious deeds centre here.

In short, you can trace a large majority of the high crimes constantly committed, to associations formed at the grog-shops. It is truly sickening to the human mind to take a view of the numerous miseries they have entailed on society. They are the resort of all idlers and drunkards ; and emphatically the destroyers of many innocent and promising families, by making the heads of them vagabonds, or by sweeping them off the stage of action, with that slow but deadly poison, ardent spirits ; leaving their wives and children outcasts upon the world, degraded and penniless. Your committee believe this picture is not too highly wrought, but true to the life ; and that something should be done to

stop these alarming ills by legislature, is manifestly certain. It is loudly called for by a respectable portion of the people; and what speaks volumes in this case is, the ladies have raised their tender voice to this honourable body, and in pathetic strains pray you to interfere. Many of them are likely wives, mothers, and sisters, who have drank the cup of bitterness to the dregs, measured out by the inroads of this mighty scourge upon their peace and happiness. Your committee know, that to crown their efforts with success in putting down tippling-houses, they must be sustained by the moral force of the high-minded people of this proud state, who have never yet failed to conquer a foreign or domestic foe invading the sanctuary of our common country. To them they confidently appeal in this great undertaking. A word to those who are keeping tippling-houses, many of whom, your committee take pleasure in saying, are honourable men, and who have half their means employed in this line of business. It is true, they have been invited by the laws of the land to pursue this calling, and had an undoubted right to follow it; yet, we ask them in the spirit of candour, if they are not satisfied that the law was founded in mistaken policy; if it is not against the well being and good order of any well regulated community; if all the evils above enumerated, or a great portion of them, are not attendant on the passage of the laws under which they hold their license? As honest men they must answer in the affirmative. This being so, are they willing to continue any longer a business so pernicious in its nature, for sordid gain? Your committee will fondly hope otherwise; and therefore respectfully solicit them to abandon it for some more harmless one, which may yield as great an interest without any qualms of conscience.

They, in conclusion, recommend the repeal of the acts of 1831 and 1835, authorizing persons to retail spirits; and an amendment of the existing laws thereafter, so as to impose an increased fine upon all persons guilty of such offence.

The committee of the legislature of Massachusetts reported, in March, 1838, a bill recommending the repeal of the license laws, and the entire prohibition of the sale of spirituous liquors, as a beverage. In their report the committee said—

From a slight examination of the various statutes upon this subject, it is manifest that they assume as a fact, that the use of intoxicating liquors, as a beverage, is not only beneficial, but necessary, and that, for this cause, the traffic in them has at all times received the sanction of the legislature. But whatever opinions have formerly been entertained upon this subject, it is believed, that at the present time, no truth is better established, than that the use of ardent spirits as a beverage by persons in health, is at all times unnecessary, and can be productive of no possible advantage. But if the fact which was assumed, as furnishing the chief argument in favour of the permission and regulation of the sale of spirituous liquors, under our present license laws, be untrue, this consideration alone suggests a sufficient reason for an immediate modification of these laws.

But while the license laws have assumed as a fact that the use, as a drink, of spirituous liquors, is beneficial and necessary, a fact which



has been shown to be false, they also have professed to prevent the evils which it was foreseen would result from the sale of these liquors. But in this respect their practical effects have been directly the opposite of what was anticipated. The laws admit, that the inevitable tendency of the sale and use of ardent spirit is to produce intemperance, vice, and misery ; and how important would have been the result, if, while they professed to regulate and restrain this traffic, they had been effectual to prevent such disastrous consequences! But in this they have most signally failed, as must be apparent to every one who will recur to facts within his own observation. Laws professing to regulate the sale of spirituous liquors, have, it is believed, existed in every state in the Union. But has their effect been to check the progress of intemperance? Have they so far restrained the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as to prevent the formation of those intemperate habits and appetites which have been the cause of ruin to millions of our race? It may well be doubted, whether intemperance would have increased with more rapid strides, if no legislative regulation of the sale of intoxicating liquors had ever been made.

The inefficiency of these laws to restrain the improper traffic in spirituous liquors, has arisen from the fact, that they have professed to *regulate*, but not to *prohibit* the sale. They have recognized the principle, that the use of spirituous liquors as a drink, was not only beneficial, but necessary. They have asserted, that the sale of these liquors was required by considerations of public good. They have furnished the high authority of legislative sanction not only to the sale, but also to the use of them. The laws have not limited the quantity to be sold, but only the persons who should be permitted to sell them. Surely it is not strange that intemperance has not been prevented under the operation of laws which have sanctioned and given efficacy to the only cause which could produce it.

If, then, the committee are right in their conclusion, that the license laws originated in a false assumption of facts, and that, in their practical operation, they have failed in producing the results which were anticipated, there can be no reason for continuing them longer in their present form, upon the statute book. But it will be found that there not only exist no good reasons for a longer continuance of these laws, but that strong and weighty considerations urge their immediate modification. The modification which the committee propose, is the prohibition of the sale of spirituous liquors as a beverage. If such a law should be enacted, and its provisions be rigorously carried into effect, no one could for a moment doubt, that in its operation it would be productive of incalculable advantage to the whole community.

The sale of these liquors, as a beverage, should be prohibited, because they are to the human constitution a poison, the use of which is always hurtful—because they produce and aggravate disease, weaken the understanding—stupify the conscience—cause insanity—occasion the loss of a great amount of property—destroy social happiness, and increase domestic wretchedness—weaken the power of motives to do right, and increase the power of motives to do wrong—cause most of the crimes and pauperism in the community—counteract the efficacy of moral instruction and of all the means for the intellectual elevation, the

moral purity, the personal benefit and usefulness of men—and because they corrupt public morals, endanger the purity and permanence of free institutions, and shorten human life. But if such are the disastrous consequences resulting from this traffic, it is difficult to conceive it possible, that any measure could be proposed to the legislature, urged by stronger and more conclusive reasons, than is the modification of the license laws.

The committee believe, that so long as the license laws are continued in their present form, our legislation is exposed to the charge of gross inconsistency.

Crimes and punishments constitute one of the most important subjects of legislation. But the cause of more than three-fourths of all the crimes punishable by the laws of this commonwealth, is sanctioned and sustained by the license laws.

The subject of pauperism has at all times received no inconsiderable share of the attention of the legislature. But is there not a gross inconsistency in that course of legislation which is so particular to provide for the support and prevention of pauperism, while upon the same statute-book are laws which sanction and encourage a traffic which produces more than three-fourths of all the pauperism in the commonwealth?

The preservation of health and the prevention of disease have at all times been regarded as an appropriate subject of legislative regulation. The 131st chapter of the Revised Statutes prohibits, by a severe penalty, the sale of unwholesome provisions. The second section of the same chapter further provides, “that, if any person shall fraudulently adulterate, for the purpose of sale, any substance intended for food, or *any wine, spirits, malt liquors, or other liquor*, intended for drinking, with any substance injurious to health, he shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail, not more than one year, or by fine not exceeding three hundred dollars.” That the object and tendency of these laws are most salutary, is apparent to all. But the inconsistency to which we allude, is the fact, that while one class of laws is designed to *promote* the public health, another class of laws are not less studiously calculated to *destroy* the public health.

The establishment of the State Lunatic Hospital, at Worcester, was an act worthy of the high and generous feelings of the people of Massachusetts. But from the annual reports of the superintendent of that institution, it appears, that during the last five years, one hundred and twenty-eight have been received into it, whose insanity was produced by intemperance.

The committee are aware, that some persons may entertain doubts, whether a statutory prohibition of the sale of spirituous liquors, as a drink, will produce the effects which are anticipated. But we are unwilling for a moment to believe, that the legislature can reasonably hesitate to pass a law, as important as that which is proposed, from a fear that its provisions cannot be carried into effect. The benefits to the whole community, resulting from a prohibition of the sale of spirituous liquors, must commend themselves so strongly to the good sense of the people, that the law would, we apprehend, in most cases, be **rigorously enforced**. So far as there has been any experience upon

this subject, it tends strongly to confirm the committee in the opinion which they have expressed. In several of the counties in this commonwealth, the practical effect of prohibitory laws against the sale of ardent spirit, has been tested by the refusal of the county commissioners to grant licenses, and with the most happy results.

A committee of the house of representatives of the last legislature, instituted a most elaborate investigation into the effect which a refusal to grant licenses of the sale of ardent spirits had produced; and after the examination of a great number of witnesses on this point, that committee reported, that "the evidence was perfectly incontrovertible, that the good order, the physical and moral welfare of the community had been promoted by refusing to license the sale of ardent spirit, and that the consumption of spirits has been very greatly diminished in all instances, by the refusal to grant licenses; and that although the laws have been, and are violated to some extent, in different places, the practice soon becomes disreputable, and hides itself from the public eye, by shrinking away into obscure and dark places; that noisy and tumultuous assemblies in the streets, and public quarrels cease, where licenses are refused, and that pauperism has very rapidly diminished from the same cause.

The committee of the legislature of New York, adopting the sentiments and language of the report of Maine said, that "a law to prohibit the traffic in ardent spirits as a beverage is as necessary as a law to prevent gambling, brothels, and other public nuisances, and that the voice of the people required action, and present action in the cause; they therefore recommended the appointment of a committee to report a bill to the next legislature, which would cover the whole ground of complaint, and remedy the widespread evil, which has so long swept like an overflowing torrent over the fair face of our beloved country."

The committee of the legislature of Connecticut, to whom the memorials from that state were referred, said in their report, May, 1838 :

That, in their view, no subject can come before this assembly of more vital importance, and demanding more serious attention, than that of remedying and preventing the evils consequent on the use of intoxicating drinks.

From tables prepared with great care, and founded on authentic documents, the amount annually expended in this state for intoxicating drinks, is more than one million of dollars; and including the loss of time and labour, and the cost of pauperism and crime, the annual expense to the state probably exceeds 2,000,000 of dollars. More than 1,000,000, however, is actually paid for the liquor annually consumed in the state.

If any one doubts the truth of the assertion,—aside from the fact, that its correctness has been ascertained with mathematical accuracy, let him remember that the expenditure of one cent a day by each individual would amount to more than this sum in a single year.

Of fifty-seven convicts committed to the Connecticut prison, the year



preceding April, 1837, forty-two were intemperate, the expense of whose apprehension and conviction exceeded the sum of \$3,600.

A short time since, a man, who was intoxicated, received an injury by falling into the fire, solely in consequence of his condition, which cost the town \$300. In another town in the state, a man went into a store, in December last, drank freely, and during a severe snow storm started for home. As he did not arrive during the night, nor the next morning, his family became alarmed for his safety. A search was commenced and continued several days by the inhabitants. They finally succeeded in finding his lifeless body, and it is stated by a respectable inhabitant of the town, that the actual expense in their loss of time, searching for that body, was not less than \$500. Facts of this kind, were it necessary, might be indefinitely cited, to prove the enormous burden which intemperance throws on the community.

But other evils result from the same cause, which figures cannot estimate, and which do not come under the head of pecuniary loss, or public burdens. Such are health impaired, usefulness diminished, talents prostituted, wives, and sometimes husbands, broken-hearted, children neglected, abused, and deserted.

A remedy, indeed, exists, simple in its character, and of easy application. Every individual, who ceases to use intoxicating drinks, if intemperate, is immediately reformed, and no one who entirely abstains from their use can ever become a drunkard. Let every man abandon the use of these drinks and the object is accomplished.

The state can only lend her aid to place the means of intoxication beyond the reach of those who are incapable of personal restraint, and of the thoughtless and unsuspecting victim of temptation.

The states of Tennessee and Massachusetts have taken the high ground, by large majorities, in their respective legislatures, that no intoxicating drinks shall be sold but for medicinal purposes. They felt that nothing short of this would fully accomplish the object, and that the sale of these drinks was an immorality, no longer to be tolerated or countenanced by law. But such a law in this state would, in the opinion of the committee, be in advance of public sentiment, and retard rather than promote the object which the petitioners would attain.

The committee have examined the laws now in force, and find them severe in their penalties, and covering almost the entire ground, short of total prohibition. Yet these laws are daily violated with impunity, and treated by venders of spirituous liquors as obsolete.

Every person of observation must be aware, that spirituous liquors are constantly sold in taverns to minors and apprentices; and to the inhabitants of the towns where such taverns exist, and to persons on the Lord's-day, entirely contrary to the spirit of the act by which the keepers of such houses are authorized to sell. Licensed retailers, too, to no inconsiderable extent are constantly selling spirit to be drunk on their premises. In an arbitration held a few years ago in this state, one item of the merchant was, 1600 drams sold to a single customer.

Unlicensed houses also are to be found, especially in large towns, at every corner of the streets. It is from these wanton violations of wholesome laws, that the more direct and perceptible evils result which have awakened the attention of a benevolent community.



From a recent examination in New Haven, it was found to contain about sixty retailing or grog-shops, where liquor is sold by the dram, contrary to law. Many of the shops were used for gambling, and one or more fitted up at great expense with elegance and taste, and almost entirely supported by youth. An examination of Hartford furnished a list of between sixty and seventy similar establishments. Some of these shops have been the receptacles of stolen goods, and many of them have witnessed scenes of licentiousness, but little understood by the surrounding neighbourhood. In a period of five years, says the chaplain of our state prison, about forty coloured persons have been sent here who have been convicted of crime in New Haven; nearly all these individuals have referred to their nocturnal visits to a single establishment in that city, as being closely connected with the crime for which they were convicted.

Amiable and confiding youth, sent by their parents from the country into our large towns as clerks and apprentices, are entrapped in vast numbers, and before they are aware, they are robbed of property, of character and virtue. They are thrown off their guard, and enticed by the insidious suggestion, "Is it not a little one?"

"She urged him on to fill another cup;  
 ——— and in the dark, still night,  
 When God's unsleeping eye alone can see,  
 He went to her adulterous bed. At morn  
 I look'd, and saw him not among the youths;  
 I heard his father mourn, his mother weep;  
 For none return'd that went with her. The dead  
 Were in her house."

To avoid and remedy these melancholy results, no mode can probably be devised more simple and efficacious than a direct reference of the whole subject to the several towns. They have a personal and pecuniary interest in the question, more deeply felt when brought within the compass of a town, and the remedy put within their reach. They will see to it that this business, if permitted at all, is placed in the hands of men deserving of that *special trust and confidence* which the license system contemplates. They are each alive to the reputation and good character, to the business and prosperity of their own town. The morals of a town, its order and quietness, its steady habits, and the domestic happiness of its families, are greatly affected by the character of its shops. And the inhabitants seem to have a right to say for themselves, without giving a reason to anybody, whom they will trust with a business, so important to their own well-being and that of their children. And if the people cannot be trusted to take care of themselves in such a case, who can be trusted to take care of them? A board of licensers is much more liable than the people of the town would be, to be influenced by a bias from some political party, or by the interests of individuals; much more likely to license improper or doubtful men, out of political or personal favour. A board of licensers are often perplexed between a conviction of what is right, and their apprehensions of what is expected by the people. The people, on the other hand, acting for themselves, come forward fearlessly and manfully to provide for their own welfare.

Thus much the committee feel bound to say out of respect to more than 6000 electors and 12,000 petitioners, whose petitions for a reference to towns have been referred to their consideration.

These spirited petitions and lucid reports have not been in vain. In Maine a bill was reported to the legislature of 1837—8, to repeal all the license laws of the state, and forbid the sale of any ardent spirit to be used as a beverage or drink in a less quantity than twenty-eight gallons. On motion to carry it to the people for their ayes and noes, it was lost by one vote in the senate.

In Tennessee a bill passed the legislature, repealing all laws licensing tippling-houses, and making the retail of spirituous liquors a misdemeanour, to be punished by fine, at the discretion of the courts.

In Massachusetts a bill passed both houses of the legislature, by a vote of more than two-thirds of each house, forbidding the retail of any spirituous liquors, except by apothecaries and physicians, specially licensed, in a less quantity than fifteen gallons, under a penalty of twenty dollars for each offence. On the 19th of April it was signed by the governor, and became a law.

In Connecticut the existing license law was abolished at the May session of the legislature in 1838, and the sale of intoxicating liquors so restricted and guarded, as to result in comparatively little mischief if the statute is enforced.

In Rhode Island and New Hampshire laws have also been enacted which leave it optional with the inhabitants of townships whether any persons shall be licensed among them for the sale of intoxicating drinks.

These acts form a new era in the history of the Temperance reformation. We hail them as a glorious victory over one of the most fatal delusions and desolating evils which has ever afflicted the family of man.

That they should meet with opposition; that manufacturers and venders of intoxicating drinks should cry out, "Our craft is in danger! Great is Diana of the Ephesians!" that wicked men, whose god is their belly, and who glory in their shame, should feel that their rights are destroyed; and that unprincipled politicians should improve the moment to denounce all such legislation, and excite and inflame the passions of the ignorant and the vicious, is to be expected. But truth will bear the light. It asks for investigation. The people of this land will seek and secure the best interests of themselves and their children. The good effects of this legislation will soon be seen and felt where it is enjoyed. It will be witnessed by other states. It will be asked for by thousands on thousands. Not merely Temperance men, but statesmen and politicians, men of every class and every party, already see

and feel that the traffic is imposing a burden greater than can be borne. There is, therefore, reason to believe that there will soon be a general and efficient legislative action on this important subject.

In some states, it may for a season be more so than in others. Some may prefer a temporizing policy, and for a season be guilty of sanctioning a business which inflicts more evil upon the community than all others. The Committee believe that such a policy will always fail.—The true course is, cease to do evil, and always do right. This course will never injure the cause of Temperance. The Committee would ask no legislature to do any thing less than remove all patronage from vice. And if an expression of public opinion will hasten such action, and it is believed it will, the Committee would recommend that memorials be sent to every legislature during the next winter, numerously signed, and praying for the desired consummation.

#### *Constitutionality.*

By some the constitutionality of that legislation which prohibits the retail of spiritous liquors has been denied. If it is unconstitutional, it is because it is at variance with the constitution of the United States. But the constitution of the United States only regulates commerce between the states, and provides for raising a revenue. It in no case forbids the suppression, by any legislature, of a noxious traffic within its own borders. This is a natural right, for whose protection governments are formed: a right protected in part by the license system, which permits a few to retail, but says to the mass of the community, you shall not do it under pains and penalties. Happily, the constitutionality of the act has already been decided by the Supreme Court of the state of Massachusetts.\*

#### *Action at Washington.*

A gratifying event has transpired during the year in our national legislature at Washington.

Until the first session of the present Congress, held in September last, the two spacious rooms in the basement of the Capitol, kept as places for refreshment, had each a large bar, filled with all kinds of ardent spirit and intoxicating drink, for the supply of those who resorted to them. Early in that session, the two houses concurred in the passage of a joint standing rule, that “no spirituous liquors shall be offered for sale or exhibited within the Capitol, or on the public grounds adjacent thereto.” The presiding officers of both Houses have avowed their determination of seeing this law of their Houses rigidly executed, and have given orders to their police officials to see that it is done.

\* Appendix, I.

While this removes temptation of the most dangerous character from the strength of our nation, it is an expression of public sentiment against this traffic, which cannot fail to have great influence wherever it is known. It is an endorsement of the divine principle, "It is not for rulers to drink strong drink," for which we would be grateful.

The Congressional Temperance Society continues to exert a kind and good influence. Its fifth anniversary was held on the fourth Tuesday of February last, the day of simultaneous Temperance meetings throughout the world, when the following gentlemen were chosen officers for the year ensuing :

*President.*

Hon. Felix Grundy, United States Senator from Tennessee.

*Vice-presidents.*

Hon. William C. Rives, United States Senator from Virginia.

Hon. James M. Wayne, Judge of the Supreme Court, U. S.

Hon. Samuel Prentiss, United States Senator from Vermont.

Hon. Franklin Pierce, Member of Congress from New Hampshire.

Hon. John Reed, Member of Congress from Massachusetts.

Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, Member of Congress from Ohio.

Hon. Samuel Southard, United States Senator from New Jersey.

Hon. T. Henry, Member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

Hon. Ar. Loomis, Member of Congress from New York.

Hon. Edmund Debery, Member of Congress from North Carolina

*Executive Committee -*

Hon. George N. Briggs, Member of Congress from Massachusetts

Hon. Benjamin Swift, United States Senator from Vermont.

Hon. George Grennell, Member of Congress from Massachusetts.

Hon. David Potts, Member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

Hon. William Slade, Member of Congress from Vermont.

*Secretary.*

J. S. Mehan, Librarian to Congress.

*Treasurer.*

Hon. Joseph C. Noyes, Member of Congress from Maine.

*Auditor.*

Hon. Lewis H. Machin, chief clerk to Senate of the United States

In their report the Executive Committee said :

"This society was organized in 1833. The gentlemen who formed it, being friends or members of the local societies in their own states,



united to raise a standard here in this capital, which might be seen from every part of the Union. The number of names now attached to the constitution of the society consisting of members of Congress, with the addition of some of the officers of the two Houses and of the Government, is about one hundred. The sole and great design of the early and present members of the association was, and is, to unite their efforts to promote the good cause of Temperance, by moral influences alone.

Appreciating the power of example in all cases, and more especially when set by men occupying high official stations assigned them by public confidence, they felt impelled by every consideration of duty, to exert their personal influence, together with that additional influence which is inseparable from official character, in promoting the prosperity and welfare of those who had conferred upon them that official character. They saw, with deep concern, with what destructive fury the tornado of intemperance had swept over the land. They had seen their fellow-countrymen of all classes, from the honest and hardy labourer to the accomplished and erudite scholar, and the gifted and honoured statesman, fall victims to its power. Private and public morals were poisoned and prostrated by its influence. Individual and public prosperity was withered and blasted under its resistless control. They saw, in a land abounding with all the elements of personal thrift and national advancement, the existence of a *cause*, pervading all classes of its citizens, and extending throughout its length and breadth, which, if not arrested and mastered, would bring down upon that whole country ruin and disgrace.

To check the mighty evil, they resolved to associate and act. As has already been said, the means used were to be moral means alone. For the attainment of so desirable an object, all party and political considerations were, by common consent, to be left at the entrance into this voluntary and philanthropic association. Men of all parties in politics, of all sects in religion, men coming from all parts of the Union, laid by their politics, subdued their sectarian predilections, and forgot their local partialities, and united on one common ground, to sustain a cause which they held identical with humanity, benevolence, and patriotism. Temperance is the great moral common, on which all men may meet, unite, and labour. The results and benefits of their labour are as common as the ground on which they meet, and as broad and extensive as the regions from which they come. That this society has faithfully carried out the principle of non-interference with politics or sectarianism, is shown by the fact, that while from its origin it has embraced men of all parties in politics, and various opinions in religion, yet the harmony of the society has not been interrupted a moment, by even a suspicion that this fundamental principle has been on any occasion departed from. The members of the society flatter themselves that their organization and existence have aided in the promotion of the cause which they advocate, throughout the Union, every section of which they represent in this great republican metropolis.

No person who has been on the ground during the period of the society's existence, can doubt that an essential change has been exhibited among members of Congress, in the diminished use of ardent spirits.—Several boarding-house messes, made up of members, have passed en-

tire sessions without having ardent spirits upon their sideboards, or using wine at their tables. Does not this fact strongly illustrate the successful progress of the Temperance principle?"

The public meeting of the society was held in the evening, by permission, in the hall of the House of Representatives. The hall was well filled with a select audience of gentlemen and ladies. Among them were noticed the Hon. Mr. Adams, ex-president of the United States; Hon. Judge White, of Tennessee, and many senators and representatives in Congress; the clergy and medical faculty of Washington; and other valuable citizens.

The Hon. Felix Grundy, senator of the United States from Tennessee, and president of the society, took the chair. The meeting was opened with prayer, by the Rev. Mr. Reese, chaplain to the Senate.—Mr. Grundy offered a few remarks explanatory of the object of the meeting; after which, the Rev. John Marsh, our corresponding secretary, gave a brief view of the present state of the Temperance cause, both in this and foreign countries, and offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the great success which has rewarded the labours of Temperance societies, should encourage them to continue their efforts until the triumph shall be complete; and that whilst engaged in pushing forward the reformation, which it is their purpose to consummate, they should carefully avoid every thing of a party, political, or sectarian character, and direct all their energies to save their fellow-beings and their country from the curse of intemperance.

The resolution was seconded by the Hon. Mr. Hall, member of Congress from Vermont, and unanimously adopted.

The Hon. Mr. Reed, member of Congress from Massachusetts, offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That seamen, whether in the merchant service or in the navy, from their exposed situation, as well as from the tremendous responsibility of their trust, require the peculiar sympathy and protection of their fellow-men, to preserve them from the evil of intemperance.

Mr. Reed sustained the resolution by a speech of some length; after which it was seconded, with a few remarks, by Edward C. Delavan, Esq., of New York, and unanimously adopted.

The Hon. Joseph C. Noyes, member of Congress from Maine, offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the reformation of the grossly intemperate was, for too long a period, looked upon as hopeless. The signal success which has attended the efforts of the friends of the cause of Temperance in

this particular, wherever they have been fully and faithfully exerted, affords the strongest arguments for renewed perseverance in so desirable an object.

The resolution was seconded by the Hon. Mr. Morris, member of Congress from Ohio, and unanimously adopted.

The Hon. Mr. Randolph, member of Congress from New Jersey, offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That both Houses of Congress are entitled to the thanks of this society, and of the whole country, for their prompt adoption of a joint standing rule, excluding ardent spirits from the restaurateurs of the capitol, and the public grounds adjacent thereto.

Mr. Randolph supported his resolution in an animated and impressive, though brief, speech ; the resolution was seconded by Doctor Harvey Lindley, of Washington, and unanimously adopted.

The Hon. Mr. Briggs, member of Congress from Massachusetts, and chairman of the Executive Committee, offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That while we rejoice at the signal victories, which, under Providence, have been achieved by the friends of Temperance in our country, we hail with satisfaction its introduction and triumphs in other lands, and would cheer our own brethren who have there embraced the same benevolent cause.

After a few remarks from Mr. Briggs, the resolution was seconded by the Hon. James Silk Buckingham, late member of the British Parliament.

In support of his resolution, the Hon. Mr. Reed remarked :

Perhaps few classes of men are so much exposed to intemperance as seamen, and in view of their peculiarly exposed situation, they have the highest claim upon their fellow-men for succour and protection.

I estimate that there are in the United States, engaged in commerce, fisheries, and the navy, one hundred thousand seamen. Of that number, perhaps fifty thousand are connected with families, firesides, and homes. The remaining fifty thousand, a part of whom are foreigners, call the United States their home. A continent is their home.

Their path is o'er the mountain wave,  
Their home is on the deep.

At sea and in foreign climes everybody knows their unavoidable exposure. When they set foot on the land of their country, they are beset by most unprincipled and merciless men, called tavern keepers and boarding-house keepers, whom, in their laconic and expressive language, they denominate *land-sharks*, as being the most voracious and persevering in the pursuit of prey of all creatures.

These men proffer their aid and hospitality, to deceive and betray.

They contrive to delude and intoxicate their guests, to plunder and rob them. Thus the poor sailor, in a few days after his arrival from a long and dangerous voyage, is often deprived of every dollar of his hard earnings, and literally driven from the land, to seek refuge upon the ocean. If bad health or sickness render him incompetent for his severe employment, what is his situation?

A great reform among seamen, and especially among those who have families and homes, such as are many of my neighbours and friends, has been effected. A considerable portion of our vessels, (the master taking the lead,) in various employment, allow no spirit on board. Those merchants and ship owners who heed not Temperance or Temperance societies, are not less anxious than others to obtain Temperance masters, and make their ships *Temperance* ships. It is the homage interest pays to Temperance.

That eagle eye of interest has not failed to discover that there is security in Temperance. Hence insurance companies (incorporations without souls) do not hesitate to take risks in *Temperance* ships at a diminished premium.

Mr. President, I take pleasure in stating that the Temperance reform has reached our army and navy, and its effects have been most useful and salutary. Although spirit is made a part of the daily ration, provision has been made for commutation, and its use is, to a considerable extent, *discontinued*. Further reform in the army and navy is proposed; and bills are before Congress for that purpose. Upon the *Navy Bill* I propose to offer an amendment, to entirely dispense with ardent spirit; and, by way of commutation, give in lieu thereof twice its value in money.

Speaking of the measure to which his resolution referred, Mr. Randolph said—

A resolution of the kind had been loudly called for. Fame, with her thousand tongues, had spread abroad some dark tales respecting legislative measures which had been carried in that hall under influences drawn from the inebriating bowl. Though he did not himself believe in the truth of any such report, yet its influence was known and felt, and the disgraceful statement itself had been wafted far beyond the deep blue waters of the Atlantic, and circulated in foreign countries, to the dishonour of the American name. It was fit and becoming to the legislators of the 25th Congress to seize the first opportunity of wiping off this stain.

The resolution was important in another point of view. The nation looked up to the seat of government not for political merely, but also for moral action. The tone of morals in the two Houses of Congress was felt to the remotest extremities of this vast republic. That capitol stood as a beacon erected in the centre of this nation. If the example here set was in favour of virtue, the influence would go forth in cheering beams to our country's farthest bourn, to enlighten and to bless; but if otherwise, it would but resemble those false lights held out to deceive the storm-beaten mariner, and would lure all who trusted to it to their ruin. The spirit of our free institutions, the voice of public sentiment, call loudly on the representatives of the people; nay, the general gloom



which now brooded over that hall,\* the melancholy badges which were seen on every side, called in emphatic tones, demanding that a sound and healthful moral influence be sent forth from this central spot over all the length and breadth of the land.

The Hon. James Silk Buckingham, late member of the British parliament, and chairman of a committee to investigate the extent, causes, and remedy of drunkenness, to whom the greater part of the evening was devoted, addressed the meeting for an hour and a half. He entered into a minute account of the manner in which the subject of drunkenness was brought, through his instrumentality, before the British parliament, and of the extent and results of the inquiries made by the special committee, on the subject. In speaking of the latter he said :

The result of the investigation in England proved that not less than fifty millions sterling were wasted in that country in the purchase of intoxicating drinks. This loss is not all suffered by the rich, nor by the poor, nor by the middle classes, but it is abstracted from all. In Ireland, however, at this day the most miserable country under the sun, owing partly perhaps to misgovernment by her rulers, but certainly not less to mis-self-government of her own, it is ascertained that out of seven millions of inhabitants, two millions three hundred thousand are paupers, being one-third of the whole; and when I say *paupers*, I do not mean persons in poverty merely, but those in the last degree of destitution, wretchedness, and rags. Yet, in this most miserable country, six millions of pounds sterling are spent every year in the purchase of whisky, or in the conversion of nutritious food to spirituous drink. If that sum of money were spent in the purchase of grain, of clothes, and the means of education, who can conceive or describe the change that would instantly be produced in the moral as well as physical state of that people? But all this amount of good is prevented and destroyed by that fiery flood, whose consuming flames rise like the fires of Moloch, calling down the vengeance of indignant Heaven upon that unhappy land. Now, as the drink for which those fifty millions are expended is never necessary, the money wasted upon it must be set down as a national loss; while the positive injury, of which it is the immediate cause, doubles that loss to the nation. Fifty millions is the largest annual amount of revenue which England, in the highest days of her prosperity, has ever been able to realize. You have probably heard, since the fact has been sufficiently reiterated, that Britain is the most over-taxed country in the world; and it has often been said, that he who could discharge the national debt of Great Britain would open to her a career of glory such as the world has never yet witnessed. But this, which in theory is but a splendid dream, might at once be reduced to solid reality, if her people would but consent to deny themselves, not the benefits, not the enjoyment, but the positive injury which they sustain from the use of intoxicating drinks. The result would be equal to the gift of £50,000,000 a year, from some foreign nation, to be applied to the payment of their national debt. Would this be a trifling benefit?

\* At the death of Mr. Cilley, M. C., slain in a duel.

Certainly not. It would be giving a new impetus to the national prosperity, beyond all former parallel.

Would any other effect flow from such a change? Yes. Another £50,000,000 would be gained, in the increased amount of production. England, then, spends fifty millions in drinks, which are not merely useless, but injurious, and loses fifty millions in labour by this very drink thus consumed; so that her annual loss is one hundred millions from these two causes alone. But does the evil end there? By no means. We have yet to add to this the actual loss of property by sea and land, by fires, by shipwrecks, and by the destruction and spoiling of goods of various kinds in the hands of drunken workmen, amounting at least to another fifty millions more.

Then there is to be taken into view all the expense rendered necessary to provide asylums for the insane; all our numerous infirmaries, and workhouses, and hospitals, our poor-rates and almshouses; add to this all the machinery for the administration of the police, in lighting and guarding the streets and highways; then add, again, the cost of all our jails and our prisons on shore, with the hulks afloat, and the penal colonies abroad; and you will agree with me that it is a low calculation to say that the entire loss to the people of Great Britain, from the prevalence of intemperance and the use of intoxicating drinks, is at least two hundred millions of pounds sterling. Now, ask yourselves what effect would be produced upon the state of the world at large, if Great Britain could save this great sum of money, and expend it on works of benevolence and social improvement; in the support of missions, in the general circulation of the gospel; in the extension of commerce, and in spreading the seeds of civilization over all the globe!

The meeting was dismissed by the Rev. Mr. Slicer, chaplain of the House of Representatives.

### *Temperance in the Army.*

On the 5th day of November, 1832, the Secretary of War issued from the War Office an order forbidding the further allowance of ardent spirits to troops of the United States, as a component part of the ration, or the introduction of any ardent spirits into any fort, camp, or garrison of the United States, or to be sold by any settler to the troops, excepting when the soldiers were on fatigue duty. This order has proved highly beneficial, saving an immense amount of property, and enhancing the health, regularity, and strength of the troops. But as men will seize every opportunity to evade the law and gratify debased appetite, unless secured by principle, it has been found important in several of the forts to form Temperance societies, which have been followed with happiest consequences. A letter from Fort Gibson to the Committee, dated September 2, 1837, says:

“I have the pleasure to inform you, that a Temperance society, on the plan of total abstinence from all that can intoxicate, has been organ-

ized at Fort Gibson. Owing to the location of this military post in the Indian country, it has, and it must exert, a very great influence upon the Indians, especially upon the Cherokees and the Creeks.—Hitherto that influence has been very bad. The garrison is a kind of market for the Indians; and as a very large portion of the troops are intemperate, and ready to buy whisky whenever they can get it, a strong temptation is presented to the Indians to engage in the whisky traffic. The citizens also of the state of Arkansas bring in large quantities of the baneful poison, and leave it with the Indians to sell on commission. The example of intemperance which the Indians constantly see at Fort Gibson, has a dreadful influence to encourage and uphold them in their own habits of drunkenness. Our greatest hope for the removal of all these evils is the Temperance Society. Hence we rejoice in the formation of such a society at Fort Gibson. The society commenced with the non-commissioned officers and privates. Soon one of the surgeons and a lieutenant of the dragoon corps signed the pledge. The lieutenant was appointed president, and the surgeon secretary of the society. The new president had met the society but once, before he was cut down by an early and lamented death. At the next meeting, a lieutenant of the infantry and another surgeon expressed a willingness to take the place of their president who had been so unexpectedly called into eternity. The lieutenant was chosen. The society seems now in a fair way to prosper. Seventy-one had signed the pledge at the time of my last advices from the fort. One feature of this society is peculiarly interesting to me, and bespeaks the magnanimity of the officers and ladies who have joined it: I refer to the fact that officers and their ladies sign the same pledge and become members of the same society with the privates. While this will give greater influence to the society, it will doubtless increase the respect and obedience of the privates towards their officers. In the Temperance Society, as in the church of Christ, there should be but one *muster roll*. Here there should be “neither bond nor free, barbarian nor Scythian.”

But there is another reason why I rejoice in the formation of a Temperance society at Fort Gibson. It will greatly improve the health, and diminish the mortality of the post. Hitherto Fort Gibson has been considered the most unhealthy post perhaps in the whole country. It has been called the “graveyard of the army.” This bad name has not been given to the post without sufficient cause. There has been a great deal of suffering from sickness, and many hundreds of the army are buried there. But *intemperance* has been the great cause of this sickness and mortality. One of the surgeons who spent several years at this post previous to 1834, once said to me, “Five-sevenths of the sickness and mortality at Fort Gibson are produced by intemperance.” In that opinion Dr. De Camp, who was stationed there from 1834 till last spring, fully concurred. Dr. Joseph Bailey, who is now one of the surgeons, and who has been attached to the post since 1835, has authorized me to say that, in his opinion, at least seven, if not nine-tenths of the sickness and mortality have been caused by intemperance. Here then is a call for the Temperance reform, and a reason for rejoicing that the reform has commenced.

Such tidings from our forts, while forts are deemed necessary, must give joy to every patriot and philanthropist.

Not only has the prohibition of the regular issues of spirits been acquiesced in, but evidence is furnished that men of reflection wish that even the ration still allowed on fatigue duty may be dispensed with. During the late session of Congress, the Hon. Mr. Webster, United States' senator from Massachusetts, rose and said :

He had particular pleasure in presenting the memorial of certain officers of the army, praying Congress to repeal a part of the law which allows whisky to soldiers on fatigue duty. These persons, most competent certainly to judge, are of opinion that this allowance should be discontinued. They think the substitute provided for other cases, would be most usefully applied to this also. So decisive a testimonial in favour of the great cause of Temperance, ought to have much weight. If ardent spirits may be beneficially and usefully dispensed with by soldiers on fatigue duty, it would be difficult to maintain the necessity of their use by persons in any occupation or employment. Mr. Webster said the petition was short, and, in order to give it its proper effect and consideration, he would move that it be printed, and that it be referred to the committee on military affairs.

The petition was as follows :

*To the Honourable Senators and Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled :*

The undersigned, officers of the United States army, beg leave respectfully to represent, that, in their opinion, the substitution of sugar and coffee for the whisky part of the ration allowed to soldiers, has been productive of great good to the service, and also the means of preserving the health, efficiency, and happiness, and frequently effecting the moral reformation of that part of our army. And sincerely believing that the gill of whisky still allowed to men on fatigue duty, by the act of Congress, passed March 2, 1829, not only fails to answer the end for which it was granted, but contributes, in a great degree, to form and keep alive habits of intemperance, the legitimate results of which are insubordination, disease, and crime ; we, therefore, respectfully and ardently petition your honourable body to repeal so much of said act as relates to the subject.

L. A. BIRDSALL,  
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army.  
A. G. BLANCHARD,  
1st Lieut. 3d Regiment U. S. Infantry.  
I. H. EATON,  
2d Lieut. 3d Infantry, U. S. Army.

*Camp on Sabine Lake, La. Feb. 25, 1838.*

The petition was referred to the committee on military affairs, and ordered to be printed.

When such a petition comes from such a quarter, there is every reason to hope that the poison will find no place in the arm of our national defence.



*In the Navy.*

Favourable prospects here, it is to be feared, are darkened. Ardent spirit is still made part of the daily ration.

At one period, it was hoped and believed that the evil would soon be rooted out. In 1831, the Secretary of the Navy expressed his conviction that the use which is made of ardent spirit is one of the greatest curses, and declared his intention to recommend a change with regard to it in the navy. A distinguished officer gave it as his opinion, that nine-tenths of all the difficulties which the officers have with the men, arise from ardent spirit, and expressed his strong conviction, from what he had witnessed on board his own ship and others which had made the experiment, of the practicability and great utility of entire abstinence throughout the navy. He said, if Congress would pass a law prohibiting the use of ardent spirit in the navy, and giving to the men the value of it in money, there would be no difficulty, and it would be one of the greatest blessings that could be conferred upon them.

An allowance of six cents per ration, as a substitute, was made to all who would voluntarily relinquish the ration; and in several of the ships, a large part of the crews have, at some periods, accepted of it; but while the subtle, ensnaring, deadly poison, is day by day within reach of all, there will be drunkenness and insubordination; and while to drink is accounted manly, and to refuse is classed by superiors with weakness, nothing can be expected but that the iron band should be thrown around many a youth devoted by a patriotic father and a tender mother to the service of his country.

Says the chaplain to the Independence, which, during the past year, carried the Hon. Mr. Dallas, minister plenipotentiary from the United States to the court of Russia: "It was painful to see the evidence of immoderate drinking even among some officers. Although the indiscriminate use of ardent spirits is not allowed on board, it is well known that they are kept and drunk in private. But it is due to the crew to state, that a hundred, or more, on our passage across the Atlantic, relinquished their grog, either from principles of Temperance, or for the sake of six and a quarter cents per day, allowed in lieu of it."

The voice of an enlightened community now says there must be an universal famine of intoxicating drinks in our ships of war. On this point many of the highly respectable officers of the navy feel deeply. Says one who has recently spoken on the subject:

Would that the diversions and excitements of the sailor never carried him more widely on the moral compass, from his true course, than he is borne when yielding to the vein of a song, or making the part of his story. But he is so entirely the creature of impulse and momentary

feeling, that he frequently finds himself so far out of his reckoning, that it costs him many troublesome tacks, and the most painfully close sailing, to enable him to bring up the lee way. No one thing contributes more to this disastrous departure, than the stimulating bowl. This is his darling sin—his prevailing temper—his flattering, false friend—his associate in joy—his refuge in grief—and the prime source of all the errors and evils that befall him. Will it be credited hereafter, that the government, the kind paternal government which he serves, presents this poisoned chalice to his lips? Yet this is the fact!—a fact that will fill those who may write the history of these times, with incredulity and amazement.

The evils to the sailor, of which this vicious indulgence is the source, are of the most affecting character. There is not a wave or shore, where our canvass has been spread, that is not darkened by the graves of our mariners. There is not a circle from which these bold hearts have gone, that has not been filled with mourning for those who are to return no more. Could the wave that has been the windingsheet of the sailor speak—could the lonely shore reveal the secrets of its frequent mounds—there would be voices on the ocean, and bones on its strand, to tell a tale of death, more wild and dark than any that ever yet knelled its terrors through the most tragic dream! It is not the tempest casting the proud ship a naked hulk on the deep, nor the rock strown with the fragments of its perished strength, that has wrought this scene of desolation, and filled so many hearts with unavailing sorrow. It is that cup of insidious poison—mingled and mixed, and still placed to his lips by the government!—yes, by the government!

At the annual meeting of the Rhode Island State Temperance Society, held in the city of Providence, October 17th, it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That a petition, signed by the president and secretary of the Rhode Island State Temperance Society, be presented to the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress, praying them to repeal the law allowing seamen in our navy a daily ration in ardent spirit; thus putting the navy on a footing with the army: and that a circular, with the same signatures, be sent to each State Temperance Society in the Union, requesting their co-operation.

In conformity with this resolution, a circular was addressed to all the state societies, in which they say:

While we rejoice in the repeal of the law allowing to soldiers in our army a daily ration of ardent spirits, and in the entire prohibition of the demoralizing practice, we deeply lament that a similar law still exists in regard to seamen on board our national ships. We believe that, by this practice, many noble sailors are confirmed in intemperate habits, not a few made drunkards, and valuable lives lost. It also promotes other vices; leaves seamen less susceptible of moral instruction; counteracts the influence of naval chaplains; makes the task of officers more arduous and difficult; and the rigid execution of severe regulations more

necessary, in order to preserve due subordination and discipline ; renders the crews less qualified to discharge their duties, in protecting our commerce, defending our maritime rights, and, especially, in preserving our ships amidst the rage of elements, and, above all, in fighting our battles in time of war. Besides, the practice thus legalized, operates, so far, at least, as example is concerned, against the disuse of ardent spirit on board our merchant ships ; by which property and life to an immense amount would be saved. We ought further to consider that, next to foreign ministers, our public ships, or their officers and crews, are the most important representatives of the nation through the world. Their character honours or dishonours us. How important that the crews, as well as the officers, should be free from sins which are a reproach to those whom they represent ; and that they should be endued with that righteousness, that *Temperance*, which exalteth a nation.

Influenced by these considerations, and others which will as readily suggest themselves to you as to us, we respectfully and earnestly solicit your co-operation, in conformity to the foregoing resolution. We can but believe this is a propitious time to invite the attention of our national legislature to this important subject ; and that they will be as ready to put in operation such measures as their wisdom shall direct, to expunge the use of ardent spirit from the navy, as they have done from the army ; especially since, to the honour of the nation, they have recently expunged it from the walls of the Capitol. Furthermore, we feel assured that the removal of the evil in question will meet the full approbation of a vast majority of our naval officers ; the most of whom are men of the highest respectability, and the decided friends of moral improvement.

Another memorial was presented by the Pennsylvania State Temperance Society. These memorials were referred to a committee, who prepared a report and bill, recommending the entire abandonment of the spirit ration. But from the pressure of business and other considerations, it was not presented the last session ; but it probably will be the next, when it is hoped it will receive the attention its importance demands.

#### *In the Merchant Service.*

In nearly every port is now to be found one or more Seamen's Temperance Societies ; and on more than twelve hundred of our merchant ships floats the Temperance flag.

The Marine Society of the Port of New York embraces 2609 members, among whom are 170 masters and 1350 seamen. At the New York Bethel, ninety seamen have, in the past winter, signed the total abstinence pledge. Seamen, with ship masters and officers at their head, are heartily engaged in routing their worst enemy from every boarding-house and every vessel, and the universal testimony is, that a great reform has been effected among them especially such as have families and homes.

In this, the Committee believe every patriot and philanthropist must rejoice. Intemperance has been pre-eminently the scourge of the sailor. To this may be traced nearly all his degradation and wretchedness, and every calamity that has befallen him.

Adopting the Temperance principle, he becomes rich and happy. His health is preserved. The snare of her whose house is death is spread in vain. His mind seeks for useful knowledge, and his heart turns to God its maker.

"No class of men," says the Maine society, "has been so much benefited as fishermen; most of their craft making their cruise without spirit. The shipping of Portland, with very few exceptions, sails without it." An old captain reports one hundred seamen reformed, within his knowledge, from desperate drunkenness. The experience of such, related with their characteristic honesty, makes their Temperance meetings, perhaps, the most interesting in the world. The eye of interest has not been closed against this reform. Ship owners and merchants, who heed not Temperance nor Temperance societies, are equally anxious to obtain Temperance masters and crews; and insurance offices readily deduct five per cent. from the premium on insurance, on vessels sailing on the Temperance plan. Several of our best European packets hoist the Temperance flag, and our Temperance ships are commanding the notice and admiration of foreign nations.

To Temperance seamen, more than to any other class, we are to look for the extension of our cause among the distant nations of the earth; and the Committee ask the humble privilege of putting Temperance tracts and papers into every ship that sails from our ports, both for the good of officers and crews, and that they may be borne to every people that dwell by the mighty waters.

It is a striking fact most creditable to our merchant ships as well as disgraceful to our navy, that many seamen who have been before the mast on board merchantmen, till grog has been dispensed with, have enlisted in the navy at reduced prices, for the sake of the scanty pittance of two or three gills per day of filthy whisky. "Repeatedly," says Mr. Webster, late chaplain of the Independence, "did they assure me that it was for no other reason that they had enlisted in the navy."

The Committee take peculiar pleasure in stating, that by the late law of the state of Massachusetts, (may it soon be on the whole coast,) every port will speedily become a Temperance port; every seaman's boarding-house a Temperance house. Glorious prospect! Let Temperance prevail, and the bottom of the ocean will no longer be whitened with the bones of our seamen. Their homes shall be blessed. Their end, peace.



*In Steamboats.*

Here alas ! Temperance is scarce to be found. Here, all the furies are raging as if for the last time. Here, the whole machinery for making drunkards, in the most gilded and attractive forms, is in perpetual operation. And here, more especially on the western waters, are presented results, in the intemperance of crews and travellers, in explosions, conflagrations, and wrecks, which make the ear of every one that heareth to tingle. It would seem to be the highest triumph of the spirit of evil to have three hundred innocent passengers committed to the captain of a steamer, kindled up to madness by the fires of alcohol.

The Committee have noticed with pleasure, large meetings at the west, to devise ways and means to check the terrible evil. A circular was addressed, in the winter, by the citizens of St. Louis, to the influential citizens of all the cities and towns upon the western waters, requesting them to unite their influence and exertions in endeavouring to suppress the sale and use of spirituous liquor in these establishments.

The melancholy catalogue of steamboat disasters, (say they,) that have happened on our waters, is already spread before the world. It is a record that will be remembered, while the sighs and tears of the widow and the orphan are consecrated to the memory of the thousands who have been swept from life, with a breath, or who have lingered a few brief moments, in anguish and torture too horrible for description, sharpening even the sting of death. The terrible, reckless waste of human life, to say nothing of the immense loss of property, and the frequent occurrence of these accidents, shock all the feelings of humanity, and call, "*trumpet-tongued*," for relief. And when it is understood, and generally believed throughout the community, that a large portion of these disasters owe their origin to an intemperate use of ardent spirits on board, the contemplation becomes too revolting for human kindness to palliate, or human patience to endure. Longer forbearance to interfere ceases to be a virtue, and degenerates almost to a crime. But as to the remedy—legal authority cannot here interpose, except by Congress, or the concurrent acts of the legislature of all the states through whose waters the steamboats run. Our reliance, therefore, must be placed elsewhere. The only remedy in our power to apply, must be brought about, by uniting the interest and influence of the owners and masters of the steamboats, and the merchants, who have freight or passengers to transport by them, to give a uniform preference to those boats which do not allow of the sale of spirituous liquors on board. Such a combination would be felt so soon as it became general, and would demonstrate the advantages and policy of discontinuing the practice. And to render this influence as imposing as possible, the active co-operation of the citizens, the merchants, the captains and owners of steamboats, in all the towns and cities upon our waters, should be invoked.

The following spirited resolutions were also adopted:

*Resolved*,—That the owners of all the steamboats, belonging to this city, and that ply upon our waters, be respectfully requested, to unite with their fellow-citizens of St. Louis, in one general effort to suppress the evils of intemperance; and, as an important measure towards effecting the object desired, would be, in the opinion of this meeting, to suppress the sale of spirituous liquors on board of steamboats,—that they be requested to unite, and use their best exertions to effect a total, and absolute discontinuance of the practice.

*Resolved*,—That the several merchants of this city be requested to unite their influence to accomplish the objects of these resolutions, generally, and especially to abolish the practice of keeping bars, and selling ardent spirits, on board the steamboats; and that they unite, one and all, in giving a decided preference for freight and passage to such boats, as do not allow the sale of spirituous liquors on board.

As disaster has succeeded disaster, until the nation has been convulsed with throes of agony, similar resolutions have been extensively adopted; and it is now confidently believed, that this great source of drunkenness—this origin of appalling catastrophe, will be removed; that Temperance steamboats will be seen floating upon all our lakes, rivers, and coasts, affording the highest accommodation without endangering the morals and lives of the public.

To aid in the accomplishment of so desirable a result, it is hoped that as the marine insurance companies on the Atlantic have allowed a drawback of five per cent. on the premium of insurance on all Temperance ships, so there will be a general agreement in all in the east and the west, to make an allowance in favour of Temperance boats, proportionate to the value of property and life at stake.\*

### *Indian Country.*

Notwithstanding the peremptory orders of government, prohibiting the introduction of ardent spirit into the Indian country, for a season carried into effect by the military posts, there is reason to believe that, in the past year, they have been almost wholly neglected; and that immense quantities are now smuggled in, producing a great amount of intemperance, and seven-tenths of the disease and mortality.

A long resident in that country, and a gentleman of intelligence, has informed the Committee, that in consequence of the diminished number of the troops on the frontier, and the increased population of the Indians, the non-intercourse law, in relation to the whisky trade, has been almost entirely neglected, or, when attempted to be enforced, was done in such a way as not to accomplish its object. For instance, when

\* Appendix, K.

commands have been sent from some of the military posts, their orders were not to break open locks or houses, which has enabled the white and Indian speculator to keep and vend their liquid poison with perfect safety.

Could the orders be renewed at all the military stations within the Indian nations, in such a way as to allow them the privilege of destroying the whisky under whatever circumstances they can find it, it would be the means of doing great good, and save the lives of thousands of that wronged and oppressed portion of our race.

Another gentleman, who is now residing in the Indian country, remarks, that it appears to him that the Creeks are devoted to destruction; that they were deluged in whisky; and of the eighteen thousand who were alive last May, and settled on the south side of the Arkansas river, there are now but nine thousand on earth, the rest in eternity

Writes another:

We have seen nothing in all our travels, which excited so deeply our commiseration, as the poor Indians. Were the whole world to be ransacked for a subject in whom should be concentrated and personified injustice, oppression, drunkenness, squalid filth, and degradation, we would point to the straggling Indians on the banks of the Upper Mississippi for the aptest exemplification. We saw some two or three hundred of these stragglers, Winnebagoes chiefly, about Prairie du Chien—men, women and children—many of whom had scarcely the fragments of a filthy blanket to hide their nakedness or screen them from the cold, strolling and staggering about in squads of from two to a half dozen each, begging for whisky, or cold potatoes, or crusts of bread.

When the whites first settled in that neighbourhood, the Indians raised corn and other provisions enough, not only for their own use, but also for the fur traders and settlers. Now they are altogether dependent for even the scanty subsistence by which they are dragging out the remnant of a miserable life, upon the whites. And what has been the cause of so great a change, in so few years, in the circumstances and habits of a whole people? The answer is plain to everybody that is at all acquainted with Indian history. It is the perfidy and avarice of the whites; and whisky—WHISKY—has been the all-potent *agent* by which it has been effected. By selling and giving them whisky, until they become drunk, they are soon filched of the little annuities received from government; and then treated the rest of the year like so many dogs. As an illustration of the feeling towards them, a merchant at Prairie du Chien, who had doubtless had his full share of the spoils, expressed in our hearing the very humane wish, that there might soon be another Indian war, to kill them all off!

Some of the aborigines in the far West are yet unacquainted with this great destroyer. Water is still their delightful beverage. But even among them it will find its way, through the cupidity of the hard-hearted

white man; and this is to be added to the numberless wrongs which we have inflicted upon that race, and for which we have a solemn account to render to God. When we see them fall by nations before the pestilence that walketh in darkness, we silently bow at the mysterious providence; but when we behold them wasted by the fires of intemperance—the old and the young, the warrior and the gentle maid—stupified, maddened, degraded below the brute, or raving like the fiend, and swept away into a dark eternity, guilt, guilt flashes in our face: the voice of our brothers' blood cries from the ground; thunders and lightnings, from beneath the throne of the Eternal, bid us and our posterity prepare for the due reward of our deeds.

*Action in the Churches.*

The Temperance reformation, like every thing else that turns man from his iniquities, is the fruit of the gospel. It has taken its place amid that great moral machinery, which is fast renovating a fallen world, and restoring man to the love and enjoyment of God.

It is not enough to say that churches and ministers have in general been favourable to it; it has had their confidence and prayers, and filled their hearts with joy; and, when invited, ecclesiastical bodies have, with few exceptions, readily expressed their entire approbation. No evangelical denomination, it is believed, will now admit a man to communion, who persists in running a distillery or selling strong drink, or using it habitually as a beverage for refreshment. But while ministers have warned, admonished, and entreated with tears, the discipline of existing members for any of these things, has not been extensive. Hence many a church has still hanging upon it, as a millstone, some who drink wine and strong drink for the gratification of appetite, and some who manufacture, buy, and sell, to get gain. Intemperance was a gangrene in Zion not easily eradicated.

A few watchmen on Zion's walls have been jealous of our organization as a voluntary association, composed of religious and irreligious men, for the promotion of a moral enterprise, and standing forth as one higher power for the renovation of the world than the gospel of God.

With the most devout, the Committee would bow to the gospel as the great reforming power in the earth, and rejoice in all ecclesiastical action subduing vice and promoting virtue; but, in their view, the Temperance enterprise is not strictly a religious enterprise, and exclusively the business of the church. Intemperance is an evil both physical and moral, pervading the world. Men of all classes, and all descriptions of character, fall before it. If they can be preserved, reformed, and saved, it is well; no matter by whom, nor what the motive urged.



The pledge of abstinence from all that intoxicates, is confined to that one point—has no respect to character or standing—may be pressed upon the infidel as well as the believer, upon the unholy and profane as well as the pious. The church, in her organized capacity, has no power to throw a shield over millions exposed to this great destroyer, for their character does not admit them to her fellowship. The Temperance organization must, if it accomplishes its object, and may with entire consistency and propriety, even though pious men are enlisted, embrace thousands and millions whom no church organization may ever reach, as could an association to extinguish a fire, or bar out the pestilence. And, founded in a voluntary act, this organization must be voluntary if it exist at all.

The church, in all her communions, aims at perfect purity ; but not in one—not even in that of the burning Wesley, raising his voice with the fidelity of an apostle against the hydra in all its forms—has she been a strictly Temperance church. She has bought, sold, drank, wiped her mouth, and said, “I have done no harm.” And awful have been her desolations through the intoxicating cup. Nor, while the fashions of the entire community remained as they were, could it be seen how even the church, by all her authority, would have purified herself from the deadly evil. The Temperance Association, reforming the whole mass, has, in the providence of God, enabled the church to throw off the dreadful *incubus* which lay upon her. The earth has helped the woman. And why should the woman say, “I will not be helped, it will be the triumph of infidelity ?”

To ministers and churches, however, who refuse to join a Temperance society, and will not work with men of the world, preferring the church organization, the Committee say onward, onward ; the field is wide ; proclaim everywhere righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come ; reclaim the drunken ; save the children ; but “*No to them that are at ease in Zion, that stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock and the calves out of the midst of the stall ; that chant to the sound of the viol ; that drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments ; but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.*”

More than four thousand ministers of the gospel in the United States, of all denominations, have signed the pledge of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks as a beverage. The Committee record this with the most devout gratitude.

The extent to which the churches or ecclesiastical bodies have expressed their approbation of this pledge, has not been great ; but while

none have publicly dissented from it, such as have spoken, have done it with great decision and promptness.

Says one organized General Assembly of the Presbyterian church of 1838 :

The cause of Temperance, while in many places it has languished, has in others nobly advanced ; and it is a fact cheering to the Assembly, that the churches and society generally, are coming to the just conclusion, that the doctrine of total abstinence from every beverage that intoxicates, is the only solid basis on which this reformation can be universally and surely established.

The Baltimore Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at their sitting, March 23, 1838, took the following action :

1. *Resolved*, By the Baltimore Annual Conference, in conference assembled, that we consider the Temperance reformation as entitled to the confidence and support of the whole community.

2. *Resolved*, That the Conference highly approve of the pledge of the Maryland State Temperance Society, (the total abstinence pledge,) and that its adoption be recommended by the members of this Conference to the people within our bounds.

The General Association of Baptists of Indiana, held at Madison, October, 1837 :

*Resolved*, That we recommend to churches and brethren to discountenance the use of all intoxicating drinks as a beverage, under whatever name they may be known or designated.

The New Jersey Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, held in Newark, September, 1837, passed, by a unanimous vote, the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Conference, it is the imperious duty of the ministry and membership of the Christian church to promote, both by precept and example, the Temperance cause—a cause which contemplates the glory of God and good will to man—by using their influence to induce all people wholly to abstain from all intoxicating liquors as a drink ; and that it is incompatible with the spirit of Methodism, for any of its ministers or members to participate in any way whatever in the manufacture, sale, or use of intoxicating drinks, except for medicinal purposes, in extreme cases.

The Ohio Baptist Convention, held at Columbus, May, 1838,

*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this convention, the time has arrived when total abstinence, as a beverage, from every thing that intoxicates, should be the motto of the friends of Temperance.

At a late session of the Columbia Synod of the Cumberland Presby-

terian Church, held at Winchester, Franklin county, Tenn., the following preamble and resolutions were adopted :

Whereas, the cause of Temperance is the cause of God, and the cause of religion is deeply wounded by any act calculated to promote habits of intemperance ; and, whereas, the manufacture and vending of ardent spirit, and the retail of intoxicating liquors, have a direct tendency to excite their intemperate use ; and, therefore, he who manufactures or vends such liquors, for other than medical purposes, is the enemy of his fellow-man, of religion, and of God.

*Be it, therefore, unanimously resolved by this synod,* That any person who is guilty of the above acts, or either of them, is not a worthy professor of the religion of Jesus Christ, whose whole spirit is to do good to the bodies and souls of men ; and that it is the duty of our church sessions to exclude from the communion of the church all persons so guilty as aforesaid, until, by repentance and abandonment of the unholy traffic, they may be restored according to the gospel and the usage of this church.

Some ministers and churches have dissented from such action, on the ground that men have a divine right or permission to drink wine ; and that wine is spoken of in the Bible as a blessing.

But if men have a divine right or permission to drink wine or strong drink, they have also a right to let it alone. No command of God makes it a duty to drink ; nor does any thing in the creation or the providence of God. There is no ingratitude to the Creator of all good, no contempt of his bounties, in the most perfect abstinence from all that causes that detestable thing called drunkenness. Yea ; the Spirit of God hath said, “ Wine is a mocker.” “ Look not upon the wine when it sparkleth in the cup.” “ At the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder :”—hath recorded, for our instruction, the humiliating fact, that the second father of the human family was drunken on wine of the purest character, and cursed his children. To the Nazarite and the priest entering on the temple service, God solemnly forbade its use. And he said, “ It is not for kings to drink wine, nor for princes to drink strong drink, lest they drink and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of the afflicted.” The Rechabite met his approbation in the total rejection of wine. And if it be a question of right, others have rights equally with them ; and it may be an inquiry worthy of attention, how far theirs, on Christian principles, may be sustained.

The Christian bishop, or communicant, drinking his wine and pleading his divine right, may say, what if there are those in the church who think it wrong for wine to be used as an ordinary beverage, and even

on festive occasions ; what if there are those who are grieved at my course, who believe it destructive to Christian holiness, injurious to Christian character, a hinderance to the spread of the gospel and the advancement of the divine glory ; what if there are in the churches reformed inebriates, disciples who have been snatched as brands from the burning, and who, by my example, may be eternally ruined, why is my liberty to be judged by another man's conscience ? To such Paul might reply, "*Whatsoever ye do, whether ye eat or drink, do all to the glory of God. Give none offence, to the Jews or to the Gentiles, or to the church of God. Take heed, lest this liberty of yours be made a stumbling-block to them that are weak. It is good neither to eat flesh nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.*"

If wine is anywhere spoken of in Scripture as a blessing, it is one from which, as it extensively exists, and must ever exist in our land, brandied, adulterated, a vile compound of whisky and drugs, every good man may well pray for deliverance.\*

The disposition of the age is to put good for evil and evil for good ; sweet for bitter and bitter for sweet ; so to mingle good and evil, virtue and vice, that the broad line which separates them shall not be discerned. A recurrence to first principles, an entire separation, a rejection of the wrong in every degree of it, is our only safety. From these principles we have never strayed on some points. No man thinks it right to steal a little, to lie a little, to swear a little. But most men have thought it lawful to drink a little, and every man has decided for himself how far he may use the intoxicating cup ;—hence drunkenness has been continued in society, and by this course it ever will be continued, how prudent soever the use. "Touch not, taste not, handle not," is the only remedy. Let this standard be raised in the church and the world, and drunkenness goes out as sure as darkness vanishes before the light of the sun. It is by this means only, that it ever will or can go out. And Christian men and Christian women who will continue to use intoxicating drinks as a beverage, must and will be held responsible to God and all future generations for perpetuating the desolating evil.

If it is expedient for us, as men and as Christians, to avoid an evil, it is equally expedient to shun every thing that leads to that evil. And if it be expedient, it is duty ; and not to do it, is sin. If the law of love requires a denial of self, a gratification of self is, in such case, sin. If some practices, under some circumstances, have been winked at, as

\* Appendix, L.



polygamy, slavery, the use of wine and strong drink, those practices under other circumstances may be decidedly reprehensible and sinful. And hence the Committee believe that, in view of the widespread evils of intemperance in modern times, through the discovery of the art of distillation, men are imperiously called upon to shun alcohol in every form, and under every name, as a drink for refreshment. Its medical use, they would leave to those to whom is confided the health of the community. The sacramental use of the fruit of the vine, to such as have the care of the churches. But, on the broad scriptural principle, "Do thyself no harm:" "Do good to all men, as you have opportunity:" "It is good neither to drink wine nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak," all manufacture, sale and use of intoxicating drink, as a beverage, must stand classed with the immoralities of a Christian people. And they would press every church, and every ecclesiastical body to the adoption and support of the principle, which will form one of the glories of millennium, **TOTAL ABSTINENCE FROM ALL THAT INTOXICATES.**

*Demand for increased Effort.*

In every presentation of moral reform, there is a strong temptation to give it a consequence exceeding the reality. The bare exhibition of what has been attempted and done, leads the stranger to expect far too much, when he has not before witnessed the extent of the evil. And where a reform has been great, if it has been gradual through a course of years, it is impossible for the mind to comprehend its extent, without a full view of the evil as it once existed, and what it would now have become had it prevailed. The breach in the dam is still wide; it was once wider; and, had it not, with extreme difficulty, been checked, all, ere this, would have been swept in ruin.

The foreigner landing on our shores is disappointed at the extent of intemperance. The inhabitant of the city, witnessing only the abominations of his Sodom, and a stranger to the purifying efficacy of truth in the country, says, nothing has been done. The traveller, entering no private family, living only in bar-rooms and steamboats, says, there is more drinking than ever. The distiller and the wine seller, wishing it to be so, say, business never was better.

Truth is better than error. The Committee are not aware that the representations of the extent of the reform have exceeded the reality. But they believe that, to a most lamentable extent, an impression has been made, that the work is done, and that farther effort is not demanded;—an impression, it is feared, gladly received, because it releases from responsibility and labour.

Of the extent of the evil yet to be put from among us, none have any adequate conceptions. While we write, our country is suffering a waste from the use of intoxicating drinks, of not less than two hundred million dollars a year. Our cities, ports, canals, steamboats, railroads, and every place of public concourse, hold out to the young and thoughtless the cup of death. Every legislature, but two, license the sale of intoxicating drink. Our jails, penitentiaries, and almshouses, are filled with the wretched victims of intemperance, and 500,000 drunkards, a disgrace to the land, a torment to their families, are here travellers to the grave.

A few items are all the Committee can present.

From recent accurate investigations in Kentucky, there are in that state 1200 licenses granted by the county courts and by the corporations of towns and cities, and 2400 places where spirituous liquors are retailed without license; making altogether 3600 places, or one grog-shop to every 200 inhabitants, and the whole amount paid annually to these retailers of intoxicating drinks, exceeds two million dollars. As the result, Kentucky has 20,000 drunkards, or six to every grog-shop, and one to every thirty-five inhabitants. 3600 crimes of various magnitudes are annually prosecuted, of which from 2250 to 2700 are chargeable to intemperance. 500 paupers are there supported at a public expense of 25,000 dollars, two-thirds of which is justly chargeable to intemperance.

In the city of New York there are 3000 licensed grog-shops, and 1000 more unlicensed. In Philadelphia are 1500 licensed houses, and in one district of 500 houses are 156 places where is sold intoxicating liquor. In the city of Boston more than 600 houses have been licensed from year to year, and the unlicensed have been nearly a third more. In Baltimore about the same. In St. Louis there are 160 dram-shops, retailing 116,800 gallons a year. In the city of Washington, with 6000 inhabitants, are 226 licensed houses, selling annually not less than 122,000 gallons of the delusive poison.

Scarce a newspaper comes to our eye, which does not contain an account of some awful crime committed by men in a state of intoxication. Mobs are kindled and infuriated by the intoxicating bowl. Casualties, shipwrecks, steamboat explosions of the most appalling character, through intemperance, are continually bursting upon the ear, and agonizing the hearts of the community.

In his first quarterly report for 1838, the agent of the Temperance Union of Massachusetts, the most temperate state in the nation, states that there are, from intemperance, nearly 8000 paupers now shut up in the almshouses of the commonwealth; and three quarters of the 4025

commitments to the various penitentiaries during the past year. In a town of less than 3000 inhabitants, there were lately enumerated more than one hundred drunkards; and, in another, eighty-three drunkards are at this moment posted, *according to law*, in the *licensed* rum-selling shops and taverns. He had found five rum-selling taverners, who were members of churches, and was told, on good authority, of another who had just before died of delirium tremens.

In 1833, Mr. Chipman visited the jails and poorhouses of the state of New York, for the purpose of ascertaining the connexion between intemperance, pauperism, and crime. His labours were indefatigable. All his statistics were certified by the appropriate officers of the several counties in the state. The summary for the state, excepting the city and county of New York, was:

*Whole number committed to county jail.*—Intemperate, 3888; doubtful, 1003; temperate, 641.

*Paupers in the poorhouse.*—By intemperance of themselves and others, 5874; doubtful, 1402; temperate, 1158.

*County tax levied in 1833.*—Whole amount, \$495,436 50; for the support of paupers and the detection and punishment of criminals, \$363,386 70.

Committed to jail for whipping their wives and abusing their families, in 1833, three hundred and eighty-nine.

Through the instrumentality of one of the vice-presidents of the New York State Society, an examination was made, in 1836, of many of the towns of three of the most temperate counties of the state; and it was found that, after a great proportion of the population had joined the Temperance societies, observing the pledge, probably, in as great strictness and purity as in any part of the United States, still every twentieth person was a drunkard, and known and acknowledged to be such; a proportion which, in a population of fifteen millions, would give 555,555 drunkards; a class, of which, long observation has shown, about one in ten die annually.

Mr. Chipman is now, with the same indefatigable industry as before, examining the counties of that state, to ascertain the connexion between intemperance and mortality; and, in three counties which he has examined, he has ascertained from sources not to be disputed, that one-third of the mortality among the adult male population, in those counties, is from intemperance; that this vice shortens human life on an average, twelve years, and that nineteen-twentieths of its victims are heads of families.

In the city of New Haven, Conn., the favoured abode of science, order, and religion, of one hundred adults, who died in the year

1837, thirty-three went to a drunkard's grave. "One of these, a husband and a father, was lying upon his death-bed, his wife and children standing by his side; a group of some eight or ten of his brother victims reeled into the room, and gathered around him. The scene was awful indeed. A victim of intemperance dying in the midst of the establishment which had been instrumental in his ruin, with his drunken companions standing by, unmoved by the portentous warning of their own approaching fate."

In one street in that city, there are fourteen dram-shops; and "from among the customers of these *fourteen* shops, within the last *fourteen* months, *fourteen* have died from intemperance, nine of whom commenced their downward career in the neighbourhood. Most of the number were heads of families, who, but a few years since, occupied respectable, and, some of them, responsible stations in the various departments of society."

A very large number of distillers and venders of intoxicating drinks, in all parts of the United States, have, from principle or interest, abandoned their business; and though, during the last eight years, our population has increased three millions—nearly one-fourth—there has been a decreased consumption of distilled spirituous liquor in the country, (taking into account the increase of our population,) of almost **TWO-THIRDS**. From 1830 to 1837, the importation\* was 22,050,604 gallons; but from 1822 to 1829, both inclusive, it was 35,486,218; and the decrease of home-made spirits has been more than that of the imported article, as distilleries have diminished in greater proportion; yet men there are who are resolved, in spite of all the remonstrances of patriots and the tears of wives and children, to work these engines of death and hell, and pour the fiery desolation over the land. Men there are, and members of Christian churches too, who will vend the accursed poison to the miserable drunkard, and send him home to torment his family; yea, who will sell to lovely youth, and, for vile lucre, train generation after generation for drunkenness and ruin;—that nothing but the power of public indignation, the burning coals of truth and responsibility laid upon the naked conscience, and even the strong arm of law, can deliver our land from the curse.

And while millions of the lower classes are feeding their appetites on the distillery and the brewery, other millions are, in a more refined, but scarcely less destructive way, making drunkards of themselves and their offspring on wine. The extent to which this is drank, and its increased use, is fearful. In 1826, the importation of wines was 3,436,460 gallons,† and the home consumption 2,749,460 gallons. In 1836,

\* Appendix, M.

† Appendix, N



the importation was 7,583,578 gallons, and the home consumption 7,178,398 gallons ; and the whole consumption, in those eleven years, was 43,665,812 gallons, at an expense of at least as many dollars. But to this must be added an equal quantity manufactured in the country, at near the same expense to the consumer, making more than eighty million dollars, in eleven years, expended in our country on the single article of wine. And though the report of the Secretary of the Treasury exhibits more than a million gallons less in the consumption of 1837 than that of 1836 ; yet so wide and powerful is the custom of wine drinking among those who give the fashion to the community, that nothing but the most active and persevering exhibition of its evils, can effect the desired change.

To all legislative action curtailing the sale of intoxicating drinks, there exists much opposition, especially among those who have rioted in the profits ; and in those states which have effected such action, and done honour to themselves and unspeakable blessings to their posterity, nothing is to be expected but the most persevering effort to effect a repeal and a re-establishment of the traffic, which is pre-eminently the scourge of man.

The Committee present these few prominent facts, to show the demand which everywhere exists for increased effort.

To such as feel that the cause is so advanced that no such effort is needed ; that Temperance meetings and Temperance lectures may be laid aside ; that the pledge may now be dispensed with ; that the principle of total abstinence may now take its place with honesty, justice, chastity, truth, and other moral virtues ; they say, **BE NOT DECEIVED.** If it has so advanced in one or two Christian communities, that it may thus be committed for safe keeping, it is well ; but even there it should be remembered, that we are in a community where there are more than twelve millions who belong to no Temperance society—where two-thirds of these are moderate drinkers, and one-third hard drinkers—and where five hundred thousand are miserable inebriates, decimated annually by the king of terrors.

The pledge is a bond of union ; a shield of defence ; a sword of destruction, which will be needed by us and our children, and children's children, against the most subtle and cruel foe which has ever cursed the earth. While a drunkard is to be found, the pledge is needed for his salvation. But no drunkard will sign that which sober men have thrown aside as obsolete and of no value. Temperance and morality go hand and hand, and will do so to the end of the world, if the church is faithful. And so once did morality and that moderate use of the intoxicating cup, which destroyed both soul and body in hell ; and so

will they again, without ministers and Christians are everywhere self-denying and decided in this matter. The district Temperance organization, the monthly meeting, the circulation of the pledge, the Temperance press pouring forth its thousand pages to warn every man, and strengthen and animate the friends of the cause, are all needed perhaps more than at any former period.

### *Motives and Encouragement.*

Our work is blessed. All that secure the peace, order, prosperity, and happiness of man, in the life that now is, and his eternal salvation, are interested in its progress. Before it vanish personal and domestic wretchedness, pauperism, crime, impiety, disease, and, to an untold amount, premature and inconsolable death.

“Within six years,” says the report of the New York City Society, “one hundred thousand of our citizens have signed the Temperance pledge; and the public records of our city show, in this period, a decrease of nearly 50 per cent. in the number of licensed liquor stores, and nearly a proportionate diminution in the amount of pauperism and crime occasioned by intemperance.”

Thousands on thousands are now sober, temperate, happy, and useful men, who, without this work, would have been wallowing in all the debasement of the drunkard, to be early tenants of a drunkard's grave. Other thousands have been snatched as brands from the burning—raised from the most confirmed habits of inebriation to sobriety, to usefulness and piety. “Thirty-five hundred within our own limits,” says the report of the New York State Society; “sixteen hundred of whom have made a public profession of religion.”

During a late session of the Strafford Conference, N. H., the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That while we deplore the continuance of dram-drinking by many of the citizens of this county, and are called to weep over the awful deaths of not a few drunkards during the past year; the reformation and hopeful conversion to Christ, during that time, of a large number of persons who were more or less intemperate, demands our grateful acknowledgments to Almighty God, and should inspire Christians with full confidence in the power of divine truth, when accompanied by the energies of the Holy Spirit, to renovate hearts and change habits in the most hopeless cases of intemperance; and should excite them to more fervent prayer for divine influences to attend and succeed their efforts in this cause.

On this point there has been more unbelief than on any other; as

though there was an unwillingness that men so degraded should be brought back to the comforts and enjoyments of civilized society. By the venders of intoxicating drinks they have been eyed with peculiar malignity, as presenting in themselves and their happy families the bitterest reproach to their destructive business. But their own feelings have been those of pity and forgiveness, and great compassion toward those yet bound in fetters of iron.

Says one, well known to our secretary as of a respectable family, yet, for years, a most degraded, filthy outcast, spending his days and nights in the hells of our cities, often taken by the watch at the morning light from the gutter almost without clothing, a constant terror to his family, at length thrown into the hospital with delirium tremens, where chains were placed upon him, which, in his own expressive language, were chains of fire burning the flesh through to the bone, now a reformed, sober, healthy, industrious and useful man—says he, in a recent communication :

I have had sixteen years of miserable existence ; those sixteen might have been years of happiness, not debarred of one earthly comfort ; kind and indulgent parents, affectionate sisters, high standing in society, health, wealth, and in short all that a moderate heart could hope for. But this ONE vice rendered my life a curse to me—I was a horror to myself ; I hastened my mother to an untimely grave.

It is now two years and a quarter since, I believe, in answer to the prayers of my pious relatives, I was led to consider my ways, and since then, I have not tasted even the smallest portion of liquor, having any intoxicating ingredient ; and I can truly say that I have no more desire than a new-born babe for any liquor that can intoxicate. I believe my triumph complete over my old enemy ; but I watch against temptation. Did I anticipate a return, the very hairs, with horror, would rise on my head, and cold sweats would come over me.

None but a drunkard, it is certain, can stretch the imagination to conceive of the *perfect* misery of a drunkard ! And could I speak to each one of the wretched 500,000 drunkards in our land, who, with the glass in one hand, the other to his distracted head, startles back from his end, but says, “I cannot stop !” I would say, STOP ; pause and consider—take encouragement—you *can* stop—be not deluded—you have either *all* to gain or *all* to lose in your decision. I talk not in uncertainties to you ; commend nothing but what is in your power to secure. Suffer not such a thought as this, “I am too far gone !” You are not farther gone than I was. No one can force you to drink glass after glass ; but your own depraved desires may greatly incline you. Learn “to know thyself ;” that is, to have a thorough knowledge of your own mind and course of life, and you must feel abasement at the state you know you are living in. Falter not between any distracting opinions ; determine, with the help of God, to amend, and at the close of each day pour out your grateful heart in thankfulness to that invisible help by which you have been kept ; conquer over your great enemy another day ; thus you

will succeed. If your companions entice you to go to the tavern, consent not on no occasion or in any circumstances. Remember you are not just to yourself to taste that which is poison to both soul and body ; it will soon whet up the old depraved appetite, and you will be then worse gone than before. Rouse up a commendable pride—say to yourself, Am I a man that cannot govern my own mind ? I know the course I have been following is bad—my character is gone—I will show I have a mind. Let your mind impel you to the resolution to *wholly abstain from every thing that intoxicates ; that from this time I pledge myself, under any circumstances that may present themselves, I will not taste liquor in any form.* You will very soon regain your character—you will have that commendable pride of your own reputation, that you would feel ashamed to be seen in the taverns or in the company of your old companions. The devil no doubt will put them to his business ; but when they see your firmness, and the strength you stand in shall be evident to these tempters, they will, from shame of themselves, let you go. They will not long assault you. Meet the enemy with the courage of a lion, and you will be free.

Here and there, one might have reformed without the Temperance effort ; but the highest medical authority had pronounced reformation impossible ; it was rare indeed, and had reform been frequent, all permanence was rendered hopeless, unless the man went out of the world. What could he do, lashed up to fury by a tiger's appetite, when the poison flowed profusely as water, and not one could be found a companion in total abstinence. The snare is broken, and we have escaped. Thousands on thousands now take such by the hand ; bid him be of good courage, and say, come go with us and we will do you good. The Spirit of God sanctifies the heart. Christian churches welcome him to their fellowship. There is joy in heaven over the repenting prodigal ; and God says, with the feelings only belonging to him, "*This my son which was dead is alive, which was lost is found.*"

The Committee believe that, would Christian ministers and churches universally abandon the use of wine and strong drink, they might be the means of rescuing and saving many more of those who are now tottering over the drunkard's grave. They are filled with shuddering at the levity of some on this momentous subject ; at their declaration that they are not their brother's keeper, and are under no obligation to deny themselves to save a soul from death ; at their cry of wildness and fanaticism ; at their effrontery in sustaining themselves in the use of the brandied wines of commerce, and the vile productions of our home manufactures from principle, or lest the Saviour be reproached ; at their public proclamation, that the Temperance cause is a failure, and that its triumph would be the triumph of infidelity. Thanks be to God, they are few in number ; though many, through their unhappy influence, may perish forever.



In pressing onward the Temperance reformation, we are removing one of the greatest obstructions to the reception and spread of the gospel, and what was, at one period, if it is not at the present, one of the greatest sources of wrong-doing in the church of Christ. The Committee record it, not in the way of boasting, but as a fact in history that, subsequent to the general signature through the land of the original Temperance pledge, there were general and blessed outpourings of the Holy Spirit; while the late warm, and, in some cases, bitter contentions among ministers and churches about the duty of abandoning all that intoxicates, has been a season of the painful absence of heavenly influence. Since, however, the wide reception and extension of the total abstinence pledge, God has once more spoken peace to his people, and given them copious showers of his grace. The year that is past, one in which, say the reports of ecclesiastical bodies, the churches are settling down on the principle of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks, has been one in which there have been great and precious outpourings of the Holy Spirit. We record this, not as cause and effect, only as fact.

From the commencement of the Temperance reformation to the present hour, success has always been in proportion to effort. Nor can it fail to be otherwise, while even the selfish principle reigns upon earth. Intemperance, with all its allurements, is so manifestly the scourge of the human race, that it needs only to be exposed, in its first approaches, to be driven from society, even by those who neither fear God nor regard man. The great difficulty has been to convince the world that the customs and laws which sustain it cannot be continued, and the evil be done away. All utter against it the voice of imprecation, yet all sustain these customs and laws. But truth is mighty. The veil is falling from the eyes of the people. Custom, once-loved custom, is treated as the exposed and hated tyrant. Our law-makers are forsaking the old systems which have fastened upon us fearful desolations. The church sees the obligations resting upon her to abandon all that intoxicates. An enlightened conscience is rendering the manufacturers and venders of intoxicating drinks restive under their employment. And, depraved as is human nature, the tendency of the age is upward and onward. Improvement is the order of society. Our cause has the hearts of the young and the prayers of the old; and the assurance of the volume of inspiration is, that holiness to the Lord shall be written upon every employment, and that there shall be nothing to hurt or destroy in all God's holy mountain.

In our work, arduous, and often the subject of bitter opprobrium, there is, every day and every hour, great reward. It throws into the bosoms of all engaged in it satisfaction and blessedness, richly compensating reproach and toil. One father, one husband, one

youth, rescued from the drunkard's course; one miserable inebriate brought by our instrumentality to consider his ways and turn to God, affords higher joy than all the bliss we ever experienced in that indulgence for whose renunciation so many are ready, now to pity, and now, to reproach us. In our meetings for business, and for the extension of our cause; in our anniversaries, where we gather up all that has been sown and reaped, and animate one another in our course; in the tidings of good which come up to our ears from every part of the globe; and in the prospect of the wide, the universal extension of our principles, till not a drunkard shall be found on earth—we feel that we have no other desire than thus to serve God and our generation.

The late anniversary, (says the report of the Maine Temperance Union,) was of a cheering character. It was a high privilege to listen while the proofs, and illustrations, and soundness, the advancement and the prospects of our cause were poured forth amidst the outgoings of love to man, and with that peculiar eloquence which enforces a consciousness that the object is a sacred one. An influence from on high was felt there; a testimonial which many a heart will cherish among its choicest-remembrances of a heavenly Father's faithfulness.

### *Advance in Foreign Countries.*

#### GREAT BRITAIN.

The British and Foreign Temperance Society holds on its way, and has been greatly strengthened by the patronage of her majesty, the queen. Thirty new associations have been formed, and 20,000 members added during the last year, making a total of 240,000 members. Its expenditure was 925*l.* 9*s.* 8½*d.*

But organized only on the pledge of abstinence from ardent spirit, it has never been very efficacious in the suppression of drunkenness, which there, to a greater degree than in any other country, proceeds from fermented liquors; and it soon lost its influence over its members, especially in the lower ranks. The temporary suspension of action, consequent, has been succeeded by no inconsiderable reverse since the formation of the British and Foreign Total Abstinence Society and its auxiliaries, under the patronage of the Earl of Stanhope. This association has received an accession the last year of 19,878 members, making a total of 43,412. The number of reclaimed drunkards enrolled, is 2,507. Its chief field is among the operatives.

Temperance festivals are the great and popular machinery for promoting the cause. Processions, with music and banners flying, public addresses, and entertainments of cakes, fruits, &c., without intoxicating

drinks, have attracted thousands on thousands. "Never, at any period," says the last Preston Advocate, "since we have observed the mighty movements of the Temperance reformation, has there been so much zeal and activity in its behalf as at present. The recent festivals have abundantly proved that our principles are growing in public estimation, and are attaining a popularity which, two years ago, we durst not anticipate."

In Scotland two total abstinence publications have been established since the commencement of the year; and the cause is reviving in the larger towns.

In Ireland, ill-fated, wretched Ireland, two hundred societies have been formed on the moderation pledge, and a national society, with several auxiliaries, on the total abstinence principle.

In Wales 150,000 persons, and most within the year, have signed the total abstinence pledge. Ministers of all denominations are warm advocates of total abstinence. The nobility also favour the cause. Some meetings have been attended by 10,000 people. A noble spirit everywhere prevails. "On," say they, "we go. And on we will go, until, through the help of God, we have all the miry places and marshes of intemperance healed, and brought to produce sobriety, health, peace, comfort, and joy; and then we will most gladly sing, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, and all Cambria's children are brought to forsake the cursed cup of desolation, crime, and wo."

A great reduction has been made, by Admiral Sir George Colbourn, of spirits in the navy. Half a pint of spirits was formerly given out daily to every man on board of a man of war, so that in a three-decker fifty gallons of spirits were daily consumed, most of which is now dispensed with.

For Britain there is hope. Accustomed to its eight and ten millions sterling of revenue from the spirit trade, the government may do nothing. But there is an annual waste to the nation from intemperance, of two hundred millions.\* During the year, ending 5th January, 1837, 31,402,417 gallons of distilled spirits at proof, paid duty for home consumption, for England, Scotland, and Ireland. 55,192 public houses, and 45,738 beer and cider shops were licensed in England and Wales, which, together with a multitude of other incitements to intemperance, were in active operation. 354,537*l.* were levied for poor-rates; 20,984 prisoners were charged with criminal offences; and upwards of 290,000 persons were relieved by the hospitals, infirmaries, and dispensaries of London, a very large proportion of whom required this aid from their

\* See Mr. Buckingham's speech, p. 46.

having used of distilled spirits. Two millions and a half of grain were annually consumed in making spirits, which would furnish two hundred quartern loaves to every poor family in the kingdom. A single brewery covers ten acres of ground, and pays annually to the government a duty of £180,090 sterling, or about \$800,000. In addition to all this, the wine consumed by her nobility and gentry is almost beyond computation. Under such a drain no nation can stand; and because the people have begun to look at the scourge and to meet it with the all-conquering weapon, "TOTAL ABSTINENCE," for Britain there is hope.

*Letter to the Queen.*

Your Committee would express satisfaction in the fact, that a letter from their chairman to the young queen of that mighty empire, stating the object and results of the Temperance reformation, accompanied by a gift of Mr. Sargent's Temperance Tales, has been received, and met with a favourable response.\*

*On the Continent.*

During the year, our countryman, the Rev. Robert H. Baird, has taken a second tour to the north of Europe, and presented his History of the Temperance Reformation, now published in French, Dutch, German, Swedish, Russian, and Hungarian, to nearly every prince, and to all the most eminent philanthropists. It has also been presented to the Queens of Spain and Portugal, and has attracted the notice of several of the public journals.

The government of Prussia is decidedly and actively favourable to Temperance. The crown prince is patron of the Total Abstinence Society. The king in council has ordered the formation of a Temperance society in every province, requested the clergy to present the subject in their pulpits, and directed that the Temperance history be used as a class-book in every school in the kingdom.

In Sweden the Temperance cause is advancing under the patronage of the king, president of a Temperance Society. A Temperance Journal is published at Stockholm, by the Rev. Mr. Scott, and Temperance tracts are widely circulated.

In France the subject is beginning to arrest public attention, and a few societies are formed. A letter from the Count Molé, minister of foreign affairs, to the French consul, at Philadelphia, inquiring into the nature, operation, and results of Temperance societies in America, has received the attention of the Committee, and been suitably answered.†

\* Appendix, O.

† Appendix, P.



At Constantinople, Temperance documents, reports, and other publications have been circulated so far as circumstances have permitted. They have also been sent to Salonica and to Odessa, in South Russia. In the latter place spirituous liquors and wine are put away from pious families. There the Temperance question takes chiefly hold on pure wine. Appropriate Temperance tracts are greatly needed in Italian, French, Greek, and Turkish, and such especially as show the danger of the habitual use of wine, as a drink.

The example of the American missionaries at Malta, and Smyrna, and Syria, and wherever they have planted their feet in the known world, has been very pure and signally blessed.

#### ASIA.

From Bombay, we have a subscription for two hundred copies, monthly, of the Journal. The publications and labours of Archdeacon Jeffries have been greatly blessed to the extension of the cause; and there are now Temperance societies at Poona, Nugger, Deesa, Ahmedabad, Belgaum, Trichonopoly, Secunderabad, and Columbo. More than 14,000 Temperance tracts have been printed and distributed. The number of signers to the Temperance pledge is small, but the cause "has leavened society from the very top to the bottom. The practice of setting spirits upon the evening table has been abandoned by almost all the families in the fort, civil and military. The change is a very great blessing."

At Madras, a society was formed June, 1836, for the presidency of Fort St. George, the Lord Bishop in the chair. The bishop, the archdeacon, several other ministers of the gospel, and the second member of the medical board, gave it as the result of long observation and experience among the troops serving in India, that there is no safety for the soldier except in absolute abstinence.

A second report from the Prince of Wales Society, of December, 1836, and a letter from the secretary, dated April, 1837, have been received. This society, though small, has effected many changes, and added greatly to the good order, health, and life of the British soldiers. During the past year, societies have been formed at Campbelltown, Bringlely, Bathurst, Penrith, Pitt Town, Sackville Reach, and Newcastle, which, together with the societies previously formed, embrace between eight and nine hundred members. The establishment of Temperance vessels has added a new and pleasing feature to the society. The whaling vessels now sailing from the harbour of Port Jackson on Temperance principles are as follows: the *Wolf* (the first Temperance ship) and the *Pocklington*, the property of Messrs. W.

Walker and Co.; the Juno, Fame, and Lynx, the property of Messrs. R. Jones and Co.; and the Cornwallis, from the house of Messrs. Grose and Street. The Committee are well assured that a change has taken place among the intelligent and influential part of the community, in favour of Temperance societies. Magistrates are happily more circumspect in licensing public houses, and respectable householders demand evidence of good character before they sign recommendations to the magistrates. The fashion of the day promotes Temperance by discarding the heavy and fiery wines and spirits, and it is pleasing to observe, that irrespective of fashion, many gentlemen are now putting the abstinence principle to the test of fair experiment.

At Karnaul, in Central Asia, a flourishing Temperance society exists in one of her majesty's regiments of two hundred and nine members. At the commencement of the last year they raised fifty dollars, which they sent to America for Temperance publications. There is scarce a regiment in India which has not its Temperance society; and the hospital reports exhibit a marked difference between the mortality among those who are and those who are not members of these societies.

A letter from a gentleman in Maulmein to our chairman, dated March 8, 1837, in acknowledging the receipts of Temperance papers, says :

Several have, since reading the papers, discontinued the use of wine and beer, who before had used them. They express themselves convinced that the using of any thing which will intoxicate as a beverage is productive of an evil from the example merely, there being many tipplers who say, "We would not drink arrack if we could procure wine or beer. You use wine and beer, which is just as bad as our arrack."

A Temperance society was formed among the soldiers, &c.—more than eighty signed the pledge avoiding alcohol, some of whom relapsed, and since, a *Total Abstinence Society* has commenced operations, abandoning *all* that intoxicates.

The Temperance society encountered much opposition, and from quarters, too, which *ought* to have aided their efforts. But through the good hand of our heavenly Father, they were enabled to issue *two* 12mo. tracts of eight pages each—the first of fifteen hundred copies, the last of two thousand; and these little messengers have been dispersed in the Madras presidency, the Bengal presidency, Penang, Singapore, &c. &c., together with your publications, and been the means of increasing other Temperance societies, and forming some new ones. Temperance must prevail before Christianity can. This one truth I feel more and more. The heathen look upon all white faces as Christians; consequently, when they see them drunk, &c., they have a low opinion of the doctrine of the cross. A heathen sees a foreigner drink, he wonders what it is; whether it is good; desires to taste; goes to the arrack-shop; spends two or three pice; likes the fiery stuff, perhaps; goes again and again; thus spending what little he gets;

leads others there ; destroys his character and standing, and says, perhaps, after all, when conversed with, " Well, Jesus Christ's disciples do so too—we are all alike." O the awful account some will have to render at the judgment of the great day. But I can add no more.

At Singapore a Temperance society was organized August, 1837. It numbers about 85 Europeans, or Indo-Britons, and almost 1000 of the native inhabitants. The pledge of the society does not require total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors ; but those who desire to do so mark their names T. A., in accordance with a provision in the constitution, for persons preferring to exclude all that can intoxicate. The society have been the means of getting up a Temperance hotel for seamen, which promises much good—a reading room is connected with it.

In New Zealand, once noted for cannibalism, the Temperance tree has taken root. In September, 1835, a preparatory meeting was held. An intemperate chief was present, who was reproached as a drunkard by a foreigner. The chief replied, " It is true. I am a drunkard. But who taught me to drink rum ? It was you, who first brought it to me, and told me it was good. The first time I drank, it made me sick. The second time, it made me sick. But the third time, it stayed with me. I began to love it, and I love it still. Now it has made me old, and nearly ruined me. There is no way to stop the evil, but by banishing it from the river altogether."

A public meeting was afterwards convened ; and, although the success of the proposed measure at first seemed to be doubtful, the result was highly gratifying. There was much discussion. The chiefs agreed not only to abstain from using spirits themselves, but united in making a law forbidding the landing of any in the district. The merchants present agreed to pour what they had into the river, and introduce no more. A committee of two chiefs and two Europeans was appointed, to see that the resolutions were carried into effect. Several casks were actually stove. The owners of a vessel then in the river ordered the officers to destroy a cask on board their ship.

There was, says the Rev. Mr. White, missionary, who gives this account, a very discouraging circumstance at the time. An American brig from New England was in the river, the supercargo of which was a pious man, having on board a large quantity of spirits, and it was offered for sale. The chiefs, however, would not allow it to be landed. It was at length purchased by a merchant from the Bay of Islands, who trans-shipped it. This was a *Temperance ship*, had a *Temperance man in charge of the cargo*, (who greatly regretted the circumstances in which he was placed,) and *some of her owners were Temperance men*.

At a second public meeting, held March, 1836, several important

resolutions were adopted, and six Europeans and ninety-four natives signed the Temperance pledge.

Tannui said, "Let us have rum;" but consented to its prohibition before the meeting was concluded.

Tohu said, "Let wine and porter be also prohibited; because, if those be allowed, the white people will give the names of wine and porter to all the rum casks, and therefore be induced to smuggle spirits on shore." So well did a pagan reason on a point in which many Christians are strangely blinded.

A letter from Penang, dated 20th April, 1837, says, "Temperance societies are forming around, and all are prospering; spirits were banished from the social table of families who do not belong to Temperance societies. Missionaries and sincere and zealous Christians are increasing all over India; so that the eye of faith can plainly see that these deserts shall yet blossom as the rose. Temperance publications are greatly needed. The Temperance tales are anxiously inquired for."

From the Sandwich Islands an interesting communication has been received by the chairman; from which it appears that while great efforts are made to keep ardent spirit from the islands, it still finds its way there through unprincipled Americans; and that wherever the fiery scourge comes, there are its usual accompaniments, drinking, lying, fighting, and murder. At Honolulu only it is legally admitted, and such is its influence there on foreign seamen, that whalers shun it, as a place infected by the plague. By a recent proclamation, the king of the islands has suppressed all the grog-shops, only renewing the license of two billiard rooms at Honolulu, which are authorized to retail ardent spirits, and these are to be closed at ten o'clock at night, and not opened on the Sabbath. What a lesson to rulers of Christian nations; and what an outrage is it upon humanity that American ships should still be thrusting in the destructive poison! Surely the whole Christian world should blush and be fired with indignation at the conduct of men, who, for gain, will thus destroy innocent nations, and throw an insuperable obstacle in the way of their salvation.

#### AFRICA.

A recent communication has been received from Port Natal, expressive of the deepest interest in the cause of Temperance. A considerable society exists, excluding wine as well as other spirituous liquors, for wine is but another name for brandy there. Professed friends drinking moderately of the intoxicating cup, under a pretended Bible right, are a great hinderance. The missionaries cry for help, "Send out," they say, "your papers. The people here read all they can get.



It would cheer your hearts, could you hear the pleasure expressed by Europeans who read these things from America. Could you send to Dr. Philip, at Cape Town, ten bushels of reports, pamphlets, and papers, to be distributed at his station, vast good would be done."

The colony at Bassa Cove is founded on Temperance principles. A Temperance society exists at Liberia, embracing five hundred members.

### *American Continent.*

In South America we know of but one bright spot for Temperance—Menahem, in Brazil, where a flourishing society exists, and a Temperance paper is published.

On several islands in the West Indies, Temperance principles are prevalent. In Antigua societies have been formed in each town, and on many of the estates. A large number of persons who once used spirituous liquors moderately, have entirely relinquished the use. Some who were once intemperate have been reclaimed, and, in some instances, adoption of the principles of the Temperance Society, has been followed by the pursuit and enjoyment of vital religion. Domestic peace and quietness, it is said, have superseded discord and strife, and a very general astonishment is manifested at the gross delusion which these drinks have long produced on the human species. The number of members is about 1700.

In Bermuda two flourishing societies exist.

The new presbytery of Texas have made an appeal in behalf of that country. Some publications have been forwarded to them.

In the Oregon Territory the establishment of a large distillery has been prevented by the spirited remonstrances of the members of the Temperance society.

In Canada the cause has taken deep root. In Montreal and other places, some thousands have come up manfully to the work. The cause, however, has been retarded by the late civil commotions, always the fosterer of intemperance. Since quiet has been restored, the Temperance effort has been renewed with vigour.

From Nova Scotia an affecting appeal has reached the Committee, praying for aid, that they too may have the happiness of reclaiming the risen and rising generation from the direst curses.

### *Conclusion.*

In view of the operations of the past year, the Committee would thank God, and take courage. They see much everywhere to sicken the heart of the philanthropist and Christian, but much for which they would be devoutly thankful.

To societies for their reports, to private gentlemen for information, and to missionaries in heathen lands for communications, the Committee would express their gratitude.

The remissness of some state societies in forwarding reports, is to be regretted. Some have no action, and need a reorganization on correct principles.

The call for aid from foreign countries is loud and affecting. A thousand Journals, monthly, might profitably be sent to different and distant parts of the globe. The return of Mr. Baird from Europe leaves us without a medium of communication on the continent. The access he has gained to the courts of princes, and the impression he has made in behalf of our cause, calls for gratitude to Him in whose hands are the hearts of the potentates of the earth. Could he be sustained two years more abroad, devoted entirely to this work, great results might follow.

The Committee rejoice in a contemplated foreign tour of their respected chairman. They commend him and his intercourse with the friends of Temperance in Europe to the divine blessing. It is through the purification of Europe, especially its emigration to us, that our own country is to be saved from the perpetuation of drunkenness.\*

To every class of their fellow-citizens the Committee earnestly appeal for their co-operation in a work unspeakably important, and in which all have an equal interest ;—

To governors and legislatures, beseeching them to follow the example already set by two legislatures, and suppress a traffic which does no good, but fills almshouses and penitentiaries with degraded beings, and sends fifty thousand a year, wretchedly and prematurely, to eternity ;—

To ministers of the gospel, and members of the church of Christ, that they would give it their prayers and support, without which no moral enterprise can be expected to prosper ;—

To fathers and mothers, whose influence and example are to form the future character of this great republic ;—

To young men, the hope of their country, who may now breast and stay a river of death, which has hitherto swept down its current many a youth of brightest promise ;—

To the daughters of America, who have drunk to the dregs of this cup of sorrow, and whose influence is without bound in breaking up every destructive habit in society ;—

To physicians, our most important help from the commencement of our enterprise ; and whose scientific researches, counsels, and warnings, fall with greatest weight upon a deluded nation ;—

\* Appendix, Q.

To manufacturers, importers, and venders of intoxicating drinks; beseeching them to contemplate the widespread desolation flowing from their business; the poverty, the crime, the debasement, the horrors that rack the brain of the miserable inebriate; the groans and tears of his wasted family; the ruin of minds that might have lived with angels. Blood, the blood of murdered souls, must be laid at their feet, if they longer supply this river of death;—

To men of leisure, asking them to devote some of their time to the diffusion of light; and to men of wealth, that they would give us of their substance, that we may carry forward our great work. But little can be done without means. We would fill the world with truth. We give our time and the talents God has furnished us, to stay the plague, but time and talent are almost lost in such a work without adequate pecuniary means. O could those means be afforded, (and why can they not, seeing the Temperance cause has saved millions to the country?) “the light of the moon would everywhere be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun as the light of seven days,” and the bright visions of the early friends of Temperance would be gloriously realized.

To the American Temperance Union in its whole organization, to all state, county, and local associations, the Executive Committee would say, Onward, Onward. Legislators and men who have at heart the great manufacturing, commercial, and political interests of the nation, are now becoming actors in the cause of Temperance. But the whole machinery of Temperance societies, Temperance meetings and lectures, the circulation, for signature, of the pledge, must be kept up, or public sentiment will roll backward, and what we hope for will be lost forever.

Every day and every hour is made blessed by our work. And when there shall be great voices in heaven, saying, **THE KINGDOMS OF THIS WORLD ARE BECOME THE KINGDOMS OF OUR LORD AND OF HIS CHRIST**, it will be found that the Temperance cause, and they who devoted to it their time, possessions, and influence, were not among the least of **all** that had contributed to the glorious consummation.

## APPENDIX.

### A. (P. 10.)

*Extract from the Report of the Pennsylvania Society, 1831. Appendix 1.*

*In discouraging the habitual use of fermented liquors, they act, it is believed, in accordance with the principles of genuine philanthropy, not less than of sound political economy, p. 12.*—The first quarrel after the flood, a father's curse upon his son, was the effect of drunkenness from wine. The strong language of denunciation in holy writ against drunkenness, was against the vice kept up by drinking wine. It was under the frenzied excitement of this liquor that "insult and dishonour were flung at the Most High," by Belshazzar and his nobles.

Alexander, inheriting the propensity to drunkenness from his father, Philip, killed his dearest friend, Clytus, under the influence of wine: he fired the palace of Persepolis under similar excitement; and he finally expired in a fit of intoxication, brought on by drinking wine. Whence, if the vice of drunkenness from wine did not prevail, and was not feared, arose the necessity for the attempts of legislators to oppose its progress in society? "Among the Athenians, by a law of Solon, the magistrate who became drunk was put to death; inferior degrees of punishment fell upon other orders. Drunkenness was proscribed at Lacedæmon by the laws of Lycurgus: and, to excite horror among the children, against a vice so brutal and degrading, the drunken slaves were exposed before them. The ancient Saracens and Carthaginians drank no wine. The Nervii used no vinous liquor, because it made them lazy and effeminate."

Why should we take so much pains to blind ourselves to the monitory fact which all history puts before us? It is, that "wherever intoxicating liquors become general, morality has been found on the decline. They seem to act like the simoon of the desert, and scatter destruction and misery around their path." And has the world been comparatively so fortunate as only to have felt this devastating moral pestilence where distilled spirits alone have been used? Alas, no! we cannot conceal from ourselves the melancholy truth, that fermented liquors of all kinds have had their full share in the work of destruction and debasement.

Much of what has been said of wine will apply to other fermented liquors, such as harley wine or beer, and apple wine or cider. All of them contain alcohol—all are capable of causing drunkenness and a great variety of diseases.

Cider is less adulterated than the others with any foreign deleterious matter, except ardent spirit, which is added to it in order to make cider royal. Like wine, therefore, it is doubly alcoholized; first, in virtue of the alcohol, which forms a component part; secondly, in virtue of that which it receives in the shape of apple brandy. It contains also, acetous acid, and in place of the tartaric acid in wine, we have the malic acid, which is eminently unfriendly to the human frame; and the first effects of which are often shown in violent colics, followed by general muscular weakness, cramp, and partial palsy; also diseases of the kidneys and skin.

The question of the comparative safety or danger from drinking ardent spirit and fermented liquors, may be calculated in this way.

"Alcohol is the denounced poison—it is that on which the deleterious



properties of distilled spirits exclusively depend. In these liquors it is found in the proportion of fifty-one to fifty-four per cent.—Is alcohol found in fermented liquors? Of a surety it is. It constitutes from ten to twenty-five per cent. of wines, varying with the species. Of Port and Madeira, it constitutes about twenty-three per cent. : of claret, fifteen per cent.

“Alcohol enters into the composition of cider, in the proportion of eight per cent. It forms nearly seven per cent. of ale and brown stout, and rather more than four of porter.

“At the above rates, a person who should drink a bottle of Port or Madeira, supposing it to contain a quart, would drink nearly as much alcohol as is contained in a pint of brandy.

“But it will be alleged, that the alcohol in wine, is more diluted with water, and modified by other ingredients, than it is in ardent spirit.—If this be the argument against the latter kind of liquor, all that is necessary is, to drink it in the form of grog, sweetened with a little sugar.

“Let us suppose a person to drink a tumbler full of spirit and water, the former being in the proportion, and to the eye it seems the customary allowance, of a wine glass full, or one-sixth of the whole.—He takes a beverage, having about nine per cent. of alcohol in it; nearly equal in strength to a tumbler full of cider, or two tumblers full of porter or ale. The actual amount of alcohol in this tumbler of grog, is equal to what is contained in two glasses of Madeira, and three and a half of claret wine. The members of most Temperance societies tell a drinker of ardent spirit, that his single half pint of grog daily, is fraught with danger—it is a lure to disease and death, or what is worse, to habitual drunkenness, with blighted fame and beggared family.—They are right. But thousands have no scruple in taking, each his two glasses of Madeira wine, or half a pint of claret a day, and call themselves exceedingly moderate.”

### B. (P. 10.)

The following letters exhibiting the chief source of intemperance in colleges, were addressed to the Rev. Dr. Edwards, in 1836. The first is from the Rev. Dr. Pierce of Brookline, Massachusetts, and the other from Prest. Bates of Middlebury College.

Brookline July 4th, 1836.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—With respect to the university at Cambridge, whose history I have studied with no ordinary attention and interest, for more than fifty years, my conviction is stronger, that the great enemy to Temperance there, the source of most of its riots and insubordination, and of habits of drunkenness, contracted in subsequent life, is the convivial abuse of wine. The evil has indeed been aggravated, in former years, by the mixture of punch, cider, and other liquors, which render wine more dreadfully certain of its intoxicating effects.

But, at this university, wine is the all-absorbing stimulus of modern times; and the treats, in which this is the only beverage, have furnished much reason to suspect, that, if it be not “a poison,” it is not always “digested, as are other alimentary drinks.”

That wine is the principal agent in such excitements, appears from the fact, that it constitutes, at least, one-half of the expense of a social dining party; that songs, in praise of wine, give a peculiar zest to such entertainments; that the popular odes, for festive meetings, are not only often written under the inspiration of wine, but enkindle similar inspiration, when sung, or recited; and, above all, that the government of the university have been obliged

to exert all their authority and vigilance, to prevent or suppress assemblages, in which the abuse of wine is almost sure to lead to mischievous consequences.

But the most melancholy part of my testimony remains. It is this; that many, many in subsequent life have fallen into intemperate habits, which have greatly impaired their usefulness, introduced a frightful list of disorders, and occasioned other evils too numerous, and yet too obvious to be mentioned, and at length shortened their days, who commenced their thirst for alcoholic stimulus, at the university, principally, if not solely by the frequent and copious use of wine, on convivial occasions.

It is painful to feel this conviction, in respect of my Alma Mater, disposed as I am to yield to none in an early, unwavering, devoted attachment to her interest and her honour. Nor could any consideration induce me to express this conviction, but the belief, that the evil here exposed is one of her crying sins; the assurance, that it exists, in at least an equal degree, in our other universities and colleges; and the hope, that the testimony of an old man, who, among his acquaintance, has gained some notoriety for matters-of-fact, may afford you and kindred reformers a little aid in advancing, as the late Chief Justice Parker expressed it, "THE GREATEST MORAL CHANGE, WHICH HAS EVER TAKEN PLACE IN THIS COMMUNITY."

REV. JUSTIN EDWARDS, D.D.

Cor. Sec. Am. Temp. Society.

Yours,

JOHN PIERCE.

Middlebury College, February 19th, 1836.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—As to the question, whether "convivial wine drinking, in youth, is no more apt to be followed by drunkenness in after life, than abstinence from it," I have a full belief. The young men of my native town, with whom I was acquainted *forty years ago*, and many (O, how many!) of whom have long since found a "drunkard's grave," were generally "convivial wine-drinkers;" but, in most instances, they did not confine themselves even in youth, to the drinking of wine. Of course, it is impossible, to determine, with certainty, what could have been the result, if rum and brandy had been kept from them, till they had passed the period of youth and thoughtless *conviviality*. In looking back upon my college life, at Cambridge, I find that the members of college at that time, who have since become drunkards, were "convivial wine-drinkers," I believe. every one of them; but I am not able to say, that they *never* drank brandy and gin. My belief is, however, that the "wine bottle and the cigar" were, generally, the exclusive stimulants, at their convivial meetings,—and of one fact, which may be thought to bear on the question, I am very confident; and that is, that, among my fellow-students, *all* those, who were never found in such "convivial meetings," and who drank *no* wine, have maintained, in subsequent life, a character of strict sobriety and perfect Temperance.

About the time, when I became connected with Middlebury College, there was much wine-drinking, in the institution; and several young men, educated at that and a previous period, became intemperate; and as I apprehend, in consequence of the appetite created and the habit formed by "convivial wine-drinking," in college. In attempting to prevent this practice, it was found by experience, that our Temperance society was useless, or *worse than useless*. The pledge of entire abstinence from "distilled liquor, or ardent spirit," did not touch the case. Indeed, it was thought by some to increase the temptations to a frequent and excessive use of wine and beer. Subsequently a new pledge has been adopted, embracing, "as a beverage, all intoxicating liquors." This, we think, has placed the axe at the root of the tree; has very nearly cured the evil in the institution; and, we hope, will soon prevent any one from entering its walls, who is not prepared also to enter the "temple of Temperance," and abstain entirely from the use of every thing, which can produce intoxication.

Yours, in the common cause,

REV. J. EDWARDS, D.D.

JOSHUA BATES.

## C. (P. 15.)

That intoxicating principle, which has, in this country, been the chief cause of drunkenness, is not the product of creation; nor is it the result of any *living* process in nature. The animal kingdom, in all its vast variety of existence, and modes of operation, saith, "It is not in me;" and the vegetable kingdom responds, "It is not in me." It cannot be found, and it does not exist, among all the *living* works of God. Those substances, however, which contain, or which will produce sugar, after they are dead, and have become subject to those laws which, *then*, operate on inanimate matter, in the incipient stages of decomposition, undergo a process, which chymists call *vinous fermentation*. By this process a new substance is formed, called alcohol. This is the means of intoxication. It is composed of hydrogen, carbon, and oxygen in the proportion of 13.04; 52.17; and 34.79 parts to a hundred; and is in its nature, as manifested by its effects, an exceedingly subtle and diffusive *poison*. The elements, by the combination of which this is found, existed before; but the substance, which this combination forms, did not before exist. It is an entirely new substance, and is altogether different in its nature and effects, from what existed before. It was formed, not by the process which operates in the formation of living matter, but by that which operates on a certain kind of matter, only after it is dead. And the substance which is thus formed is as really different, in its nature and effects, from every thing which existed before, as the poisonous miasma is different from the fruits, or the vegetables, from the decomposition and decay of which it springs.—*Perm. Temp. Documents.*

*Brande's table, showing the proportion of alcohol in distilled and fermented liquors. Proportion of spirit per cent. by measure.*

1. Brandy.....53.39	Sherry .....18.25	Claret.....16.32	45. Vin de Grave..13.94
2. Rum.....53.68	Average.....19.17	Ditto.....14.08	Ditto.....12.80
3. Gin.....51.60	13. Tenerife.....19.79	Ditto.....12.91	Average ....13.37
4. Scotch Whisky.....54.32	14. Colares.....19.75	Average.....15.10	46. Frontignac, (Rivesalte).....12.79
5. Irish ditto.....53.90	15. Lacryma Christi.....19.17	32. Zante.....17.05	47. Cote Rotie.....12.32
6. Lissa.....26.47	16. Constantia, white.....19.75	33. Palmsey Madeira.....16.40	48. Gooseberry wine.....11.84
Ditto.....21.35	Ditto, red.....18.92	34. Lunel.....15.52	49. Orange wine average of six samples made by a London manufacturer.....11.26
Average.....25.41	18. Lisbon.....18.94	35. Sheraaz.....15.52	50. Tokay.....9.88
7. Raisin wine.....26.49	19. Malaga.....18.94	36. Syracuse.....15.25	51. Elder wine....8.79
Ditto.....25.77	20. Bucellas.....18.49	37. Sauterne.....14.22	52. Cider, highest average....9.87
Ditto.....23.20	21. Red Madeira.....22.30	38. Burgundy.....16.60	Ditto, lowest..5.21
Average.....25.12	Ditto.....18.40	Ditto.....15.22	53. Perry, average of 4 samples 7.26
8. Marsala.....26.03	Average.....20.35	Ditto.....14.53	54. Mead.....7.32
Ditto.....25.05	22. Cape Muschat 18.25	Ditto.....11.95	55. Ale (Burton) 8.88
Average.....25.09	23. Cape Madeira 22.91	Average.....14.57	Ditto (Elinburg 6.20
9. Port.....25.83	Ditto.....20.25	39. Hock.....14.37	Ditto (Dorchester, Eng.).....5.56
Ditto.....24.29	Ditto.....18.11	Ditto (old in cask).....8.88	Average.....6.87
Ditto.....23.71	Average.....20.51	Average.....12.08	56. Brown Stout..6.80
Ditto.....22.30	24. Grape wine.....18.11	40. Nice.....14.63	57. London Porter (average)....4.20
Ditto.....21.40	25. Calcavella.....19.20	41. Barsac.....13.88	58. Ditto small Beer (average) ..1.23
Ditto.....19.00	Ditto.....18.10	42. Tent.....13.30	
Average.....22.96	Average.....18.65	43. Champagne (still).....13.30	
10. Madeira.....24.42	26. Vidonia.....19.25	Ditto (sparkling).....12.80	
Ditto.....21.93	27. Alba Flora.....17.26	Ditto (red).....12.56	
Ditto (Sercial).....21.40	28. Malaga.....17.26	Ditto (ditto).....11.30	
Ditto.....19.24	29. White Hermitage.....17.43	Average.....12.61	
Average.....22.27	30. Rousillon.....19.00	44. Red Hermitage.....13.32	
11. Current wine..20.55	Ditto.....17.26		
12. Sherry.....19.81	Average.....18.13		
Ditto.....19.83	31. Claret.....17.11		
Ditto.....18.79			

*McNish on Wine and Malt Liquor.*

Both wine and malt liquor have a greater tendency to swell the body than ardent spirit. They form blood with greater rapidity. The most dreadful



effects upon the whole, are brought on by ardent spirit, but drunkenness from malt liquors is most speedily fatal. The former breaks down the body by degrees, the latter operates by some instantaneous apoplexy or rapid inflammation.

*Dr. Mussey on Wine, Beer, and Cider.*

The small quantity of residual matter in beer, so often urged in its favour as a nutritive beverage, can scarcely serve any other purpose than that of cheating men into the notion that its nourishing qualities render it a wholesome drink. Nourishment is not, in truth, the grand object of beer-drinking; if it were, experience would soon show it to be a most expensive way of getting any food. It is the exciting properties, derived from its alcohol, its narcotics and other stimulants, that give it favour with the lovers of strong drink.

Could accurate statistics be obtained, it would appear, I doubt not, that the average length of life among beer drunkards, is less than that of their brethren, the spirit drunkards. For my own part, if I were compelled to drink to any given amount of alcohol, I should much prefer, from regard to health merely, taking it mixed only with water, than in combination with the ingredients existing in beer.

The following questions were proposed to Dr. Mussey, by the Bangor Temperance Association:—

1st. Whether the habitual use of cider has any tendency, without the aid of other intoxicating liquors, to form the habit of intemperate drinking?

2d. What is its influence in reproducing intemperate habits?

The following is the substance of the answers of that eminent physician.

MY DEAR SIR,—In reply to your inquiries, I may say,

It is the alcohol in fermented liquors which causes a man to prefer them to water, and doubtless the only reason why deep drunkenness is not as common in communities drinking purely cider and wine, as in those which use chiefly or wholly distilled spirits, is, that the alcohol cannot be had in the former in a state so concentrated. Fewer drunkards, perhaps, are made by cider drinking, than by ardent spirits and wine.

That cider can bring back the relish for distilled spirits in a reclaimed drunkard, is certain. A single glass of cider, beer, or wine has brought back to sottishness and destruction, many a man who seemed to have been reformed.

Alcohol in cider, ranges from 6 to 10 per cent. averaging over 7 per cent.; while brandy has nearly 54 per cent. of alcohol. It follows, that cider contains more than one-eighth part of the alcohol that is found in brandy; and that in a half-pint tumbler of cider, there is half a wine-glass of spirits; in a pint, a wine-glass; and in a quart of cider, a gill of spirits. This scale will show the drinkers of cider the proportion of intoxicating drink they consume in their favourite beverage.

We have no evidence whatever, that alcohol in any form, or taken under any circumstances, or in any combinations, is capable of being digested or converted into nourishment. There cannot, I think, be left a reasonable doubt that as much mischief to health results from the use of any kind of fermented liquors, as from distilled spirits, equally diluted with water. If I must drink any given quantity of alcohol in a specified time, I should think it best to take it in distilled spirits rather than in cider, wine, or beer.

How can there be a drink so good as water? We have a plenty of evidence, from fact, that it is better and safer than any other. It seems to have been made just right at first; and if for some thousands of years mankind have been in vain attempting to make it any better, by various additions, it may be safely predicted that all such efforts are vain, and must forever remain so.

With much regard, yours,

RICHARD MUSSEY.



*From L. M. Sargent, Esq.*

It is a well known fact that *alcohol cannot be digested by man or beast*. Alcohol is the intoxicating principle in distilled and fermented liquors. The pure juice of the grape, the currant, the apple, the pear, &c., pressed forth, and exposed to a degree of heat, above 60° of Fahrenheit, will soon ferment. When fermented, alcohol is present. This is evident to every man of common sense, whose eyes are not filled with dust of an half learned science. The proof is simple and of two kinds. The juice of the grape and of the currant, for example, thoroughly fermented, no brandy having been added, if thrown, not upon live coals, but into a blazing fire, will increase the blaze. I have repeatedly tried this very simple experiment to satisfy the incredulous, not always in the ranks of unlearned men; but there prevails a great amount of error, in relation to this simple fact. If cider and beer will not commonly produce the same effect, it is because the quantity of alcohol is somewhat less: thus in cider alcohol is present in the proportion of eight per cent.; and I am informed by Professor Hitchcock, of Amherst College, that good American cider contains ten per cent. In Brande's table, cider is rated at 9.87. That other test of the presence of alcohol in all fermented liquors, to which I have alluded, is the well known effect of such liquors upon the brain and nerves. They produce drunkenness and ruin, disease and death. There is no crime in the decalogue, or out of it, which has not been committed under their influence.

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**D.** (P. 15.)

The Rev. Thomas P. Hunt, in a series of papers in the Journal of the American Temperance Union, entitled "Drunkard-Making a System of Fraud," has shown from standard authors, that in distilling and brewing, counterfeiting and deception is one prominent feature of the trade, and that these counterfeits are often made by exceedingly dangerous ingredients. The following are among his quotations.

*From the Receipt books of Dubrunfaut and Jonas. London, 1830.*

Page 140. "Many distillers substitute caustic alkalies—in fact, almost every distiller has some secret nostrum for rectifying his spirits. They may be all reduced to three; by fixing alkaline salts; by acid spirits mixed with saline salts; and by saline bodies and flavouring additions."

145. "Malt spirit is usually sold by weight to rectifying distillers, who distil it over again, combining it with certain materials, with a view of making it into gin, brandy, rum, &c."

158. Speaking of the various methods used for the "sophistication" of brandy, &c., he says of one of them: "This brandy recedes from those distilled spirits reckoned safe and wholesome." Of another method: "This brandy is more depraved than the first, as it comes over the still nearly as so much ardent spirits (malt) mixed with brandy, and it will of course exert its noxious qualities upon those who drink it."

"The most general method of adulterating is, by putting a counterfeit kind to the genuine. This counterfeit brandy is made of malt spirits, duleified by a re-distillation of acids."

159. "Lapis infernalis, (infernal stone,) made of lime, pearl ash, potash, &c. is used for keeping down the *feints*, has a great effect upon the wholesomeness of the liquors. The acid used in the preparation of counterfeit brandy, is aqua-fortis. When combined with rectified spirits, it raises a flavour and taste much resembling those of brandy; but if a certain proportion of water be mixed with such brandy, a separation of the ardent spirits and acid immediately follows. The noxious effects of these on the health of those who drink such brandy, are often melancholy in the extreme."

*From Orfila on Poisons. Baltimore, 1819.*

Page 199. Wines adulterated by lead.

"Sugar of lead, cerusse, and still more frequently, litharge, are mixed with acid or sharp tasted wines, in order to render them less so, and these substances do, in fact, give them a sweet taste." Of all frauds this is the most dangerous. He describes the effect of sugar of lead, page 74, 75. "It gives a sweet, astringent, metallic taste, constriction of the throat, pain in the stomach, desire to vomit, or vomiting;" page 47, "fœtid eructations, hickup, difficulty in respiration, thirst, cramps, coldness of limbs, convulsions, change of features, delirium," &c.

209. "Means employed to give a colour to wine. Old wines bring, in general, of a deeper colour than new, those who sell wines endeavour frequently to give a deeper colour to their new wines. This is done by exposing to the air, by sugar and sugarcandy, (innocent in effects,) by the aid of sulphureous acid gas." This fraud is dangerous, and by vaccinum myrtillus, logwood chips, and other substances, which also render them astringent.

210. "Wines adulterated by sweet or astringent substances. Sugar, raisins, or sweet wines, extract of oak or willow bark." These are innocent, but used to deceive.

211. "Arsenic, copperas, and antimony as accidentally, (never designedly,) introduced into wines, give rise to dreadful accidents."

*M. P. Orfila's opinion of substances used in the trade; page 34 and 35.*

"Sulphuric and nitric acid, and alkalis, &c." They inflame the parts with which they are placed in contact, but in different degrees. There are some which produce so great an inflammation that they may be regarded as caustics almost as powerful as the actual cautery. They are all called corrosives, or escharotics; they evidently cause death in the same manner as burns. Such are the concentrated acids and alkalies, &c.

100. "Nux vomica, cocculus indicus, introduced into the stomach, or applied to wounds; these poisons are repeatedly absorbed, and affect the brain and spinal marrow near the neck. They occasion a general rigidity and convulsions.

*Extracts from Accum on Culinary Poisons. Philadelphia, 1820.*

Page 74. "It is sufficiently evident that few of these commodities, which are the objects of commerce, are adulterated to a greater extent than wine. Alum, Brazil wood, gypsum, oak sawdust, and husks of filberts are used to brighten, colour, clear, and make astringent wines. A mixture of spoiled foreign and home-made wines is converted into the wretched compound frequently sold under the name of *Genuine Old Port*."

76. "The sophistication of wine with substances not absolutely noxious to health, is carried on to an enormous extent in London. Many thousand pipes of spoiled cider are annually brought hither from the country, for the purpose of being converted into factitious port wine."

82. "The most dangerous adulteration of wine is by some preparations of lead. Lead is certainly employed for this purpose. Wine merchants persuade themselves that the minute quantity of lead employed for that purpose is perfectly harmless. But chymical analysis proves the contrary. And it must be pronounced as highly deleterious. Lead, in whatever state it is taken into the stomach, occasions terrible diseases. And wine, adulterated with the minutest quantity of it, becomes a slow poison. The merchant or dealer, who practises this dangerous sophistication, adds the crime of murder to that of fraud, and deliberately scatters the seeds of disease and death among those who contribute to his emolument."

113. "Malt liquor, and particularly porter, is among those articles in the manufacture of which the greatest frauds are committed."

115. "Unwholesome ingredients are used by fraudulent brewers, and very

deleterious substances are also vended both to brewers and retailers for adulterating beer.

116. "The fraud of imparting to beer and ale an intoxicating quality by narcotic substances appears to have flourished in 1806. And during the French war more *cocculus indicus* was imported in five years than has been in the course of twelve years."

150. "To increase the intoxicating qualities of beer, *cocculus indicus*, opium, *nux vomica*, and extract of poppies are used."

*Extracts from The Domestic Chymist, Polytechnic Library, London, 1831.*

Page 13. All compounds of lead, such as litharge, red lead, and white lead, are highly poisonous.

14. Cider is frequently rendered poisonous by lead, generally in consequence of the addition of sugar of lead. Many kinds of spirituous liquors are frequently adulterated by the addition of sugar of lead.

37. Green vitriol, or sulphate of iron, is one of the compounds most frequently resorted to in the adulteration of beer.

53. Sulphuric acid. This compound, the oil of vitriol of commerce, is the strongest of all the acids. On account of its acidulating power and extreme cheapness, it is frequently used to give strength and roughness of taste to beer.

56. Nitric acid, the strongest kind of aqua-fortis. (Proved to be used by distillers, &c., by J. Hartly.)

61. Prussic acid. The liquids in common use which produce this, and in the various oils and aromatic waters produced from the bitter almond, the cherry, laurel, &c. Noyeau is a weak poison of this description. (Proved by all to be used by distillers.)

63. Bitter almond. Its essential oil is an extremely powerful poison. A single drop of it killed a cat in five minutes. This vegetable often produces in man a state resembling intoxication, sometimes an eruption like nettle root. It has been often the cause of death.

96. Some of these adulterants are employed by the brewer, others by the sellers. Or, in other words, some of them are used in the *brewing* of beer, and others are *added* to the beer after it is brewed. The object of the brewer is to save malt and hops. The object of the publican is to multiply or increase the quantity of his beer. The liquor produced by the *doctoring brewer*, is a spurious imitation of beer; that produced by the seller is a mixture of such beer with coloured water. Either of the liquors is wholesome, dangerous, or poisonous, according to the proportion which its noxious ingredients bear to its malt, hops, and water.

97. When the brewer makes a large quantity of beer from a small quantity of hops and malt, or when the seller mixes his strong beer with water and small beer, the product is always in a state of disease; that is to say, the resulting beer is so weak and vapid, that no mortal man can be induced to pour it down his throat. But as beer of this kind is always made to sell, and as nobody will buy it while it is in a state of evident disease, the ingenuity of the beer doctor is taxed to supply the means of giving a *healthy* APPEARANCE to the liquor, which is afflicted with the most incurable disorder. It is not deemed, either by the brewer or the publican, that the diseased beer should be rendered *absolutely good*; it is quite sufficient for their purposes that it should be made to *appear* good. All that they insist upon, is, that the beer shall be put into a *saleable* state; they do not trouble themselves with reflections about its *wholesomeness* or *unwholesomeness*; nor, indeed, is there any reason why they should; for it is evident that reflections of that sort ought to be made by the individuals who have the *drinking* of the beer, and not by those who have merely the *selling* of it.

98. The diseases of beer, and their favourite remedies, are as follows:

Remedies for want of alcohol. All beer which has been made from malt,



contains a certain quantity of pure spirit, to the presence of which its exhilarating and intoxicating qualities are attributable. Beer, deficient in malt, is deficient in alcohol. When the deficiency is large, the beer is weak. This deficiency is remedied by the introduction of *cocculus indicus*, opium, extract of poppies, St. Ignatius' bean, *nux vomica*, tobacco, Bohemian rosemary, henbane, all which possess the property of *stupifying* or *intoxicating* the persons who swallow them.

108—9. Remedy for want of age. Sulphuric acid. This acid effects as great a change in taste in beer in five minutes, as time can effect in five years.

109. Remedy for want of astringency. Of all the substances used in adulteration, water and small beer are used in the largest doses. This makes the liquor insipid. To remedy this, the hot, bitter, stupifying drugs already mentioned, and an addition of green vitriol, are employed.

110. The remedy for old age. The substances used for this purpose are the alkalies, lime, potash, and soda, or substances containing lime and phosphoric and carbonic acid united to lime, or substances which contain carbonic acid alone.

112. Remedy for want of froth. Green vitriol, alum, and salt.

121. Genuine brandy is the result of the distillation of wine, but an imitation of it is produced by a distillation of various other fermented liquors. Both in the French and English markets, a considerable quantity of malt brandy, of brandy of potatoes, &c., are to be found.

122. The London spirit sellers are little behind their brethren of Paris in ingenuity of sophistication. It is common with them to make cogniac brandy with common malt liquors, &c. It is customary with some spirit merchants to communicate to brandy a hot taste by various additions of aromatics, &c. Some clear with sugar of lead.

124. English brandy, it is stated, consists of malt spirit, sweet spirit of nitre, and *terra japonica*.

150. Pure gin is prepared by re-distilling malt spirit over juniper berries; but the common kind of English gin is flavoured by spirit of turpentine, instead of oil of juniper.

151. The retailers of gin dilute it largely with water, and sweeten it with sugar; then clarify with alum, solution of carbonate of potash, or by the addition of sugar of lead, which, on account of its superior efficacy, is the most general method, and renders the gin poisonous.

267 to 271. Wines, sweetened by alkalies, lime, potash, soda, and litharge, artificially coloured. The most gross adulterations are occasionally effected by ignorant and unprincipled dealers.

Dr. Warren, Medical Trans. vol. 2d, p. 80, states an instance of twenty persons having become severely ill, after drinking white wine that had been adulterated with lead. One of them died, and one became paralytic.

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*From the New York Sun.*

Though the public are generally satisfied of the adulteration of a large proportion of our malt liquors, we propose to offer such evidence as will remove all doubts from the minds of the skeptical, if such there yet are.

1. *More than one thousand bags of cocculus indicus* are annually sold, at auction, in this city; *a large proportion of which is purchased by brewers or their agents*; the remainder by druggists who resell it to the same. 2. *Wholesale druggists inform us that their principal customers for this article are brewers*; and that it is used only in catching fish, *poisoning rats*, and brewing. 3. We know individuals, who are employed by brewers to grind *cocculus indicus* for their use. 4. Various examples of beer have been analyzed by Mr. Mapes, a distinguished chymist of this city, who says in his report: It is certain that the specimens analyzed contained copperas, common salt, magnesia, copper, and *a bitter principle which does not belong to the hop*.



*Important extract from the London Times, June, 1838.—Imitation wines.*

It is not, perhaps, generally known, that very large establishments exist at Certe and Marseilles, in the south of France, for the manufacture of every description of wines, the natural products not only of France, but of all other wine-growing and wine-exporting countries. Some of these establishments are on so large a scale as to give employment to an equal, if not greater, number of persons than our large breweries. It is no uncommon occurrence with speculators engaged in this sort of illicit traffic, to purchase and ship imitation wines, fabricated in the places named, to Madeira, where, by collusion with persons in the custom-house department of the island, the wines are landed in the entrepôt, and thence, after being branded with the usual marks of the genuine Madeira vintage, reshipped, principally, it is believed, for the United States. The scale of gratuity for this sort of work to the officials interested, may be estimated by the fact, that, on one occasion, seventy pipes were thus surreptitiously passed at a charge of 1,000 dollars. It is a circumstance no less singular, that the same manœuvre is said to be commonly carried on with counterfeit wine made up in Certe and Marseilles, and thence despatched to Oporto, where the same process of landing, branding, and reshipment as genuine port, is gone through, the destination of this spurious article being most generally to the United States. Such is the extent of this nefarious commerce, that one individual alone has been pointed out in the French ports, who has been in the habit of despatching, four times in the year, 25,000 bottles of champagne each shipment, of wines not the produce of the champagne districts, but fabricated in these wine factories. It is known that the imposition of these counterfeit wines has arrived at such a pitch, as to have become quite notorious, and the subject of loud complaint in the United States, at least.

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### E. (P. 16.)

Water is the natural and proper drink of man. Indeed it is the grand beverage of organized nature. It enters largely into the composition of the blood and juices of animals and plants, forms an important ingredient in their organized structures, and bears a fixed and unalterable relation to their whole vital economy. It was the only beverage of the human family in their primeval state.

In that garden, where grew "every tree pleasant to the sight and good for food," producing all the richness and variety of "fruit and flower" which an omnipotent and all-bountiful Creator could adapt to the relish of his senses, and the exigencies of his entire organization, it cannot for a moment be doubted that man was in a condition the best suited to secure to him the uninterrupted, as well as the highest and best exercise and enjoyment, of his physical, mental, and moral powers. His drink was water. A river flowed from Paradise. From the moment that river began to "water the garden," till the present, no human invention has equalled this simple beverage; and all the attempts to improve it by the admixture of other substances, whether alcoholic, narcotic, or aromatic, have not only failed, but have served to deteriorate or poison it, and render it less healthful and safe.

Water is as well adapted to man's natural appetite, as to the physical wants of his organs. A natural thirst, and the pleasure derived from its gratification, were given us to secure to the vital machinery the supply of liquid necessary to its healthy movements. When this natural thirst occurs, no drink tastes so good, and in truth none is so good as water; none possesses adaptations so exact to the vital necessities of the organs. So long as a fresh supply of liquid is not needed, so long there is not the least relish for water; it offers no temptation, while its addition to the circulating fluids would be useless, or hurtful.—*Dr. Mussey's Prize Essay.*

## F. (P. 16.)

The whole number of publications issued by this active society, since its organization in 1828, has been 14,082,010. The whole expense incurred \$139,078 17, of which there have been received for publications \$95,512 50, and by donations \$42,086 43. To the original pledge, there were in the state more than 400,000 signatures; there are now 1178 societies on the comprehensive pledge, with 132,161 members, 84,403 of whom were added the last year.

The Executive Committee to whom the state and the nation were indebted for such indefatigable labours, received no remuneration but the thanks of the community and the bliss of well doing. In 1836, Mr. Delavan resigned his office as chairman of the committee, being appointed chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Temperance Union. On taking leave of the committee, he said to them in a lengthy communication:

Ira Harris, Israel Williams, Azor Tabor, Anthony Gould. In 1836, Mr. Delavan resigned his office as chairman of the committee, being appointed chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Temperance Union. On taking leave of the committee, he said to them in a lengthy communication:

"Being called, in the providence of God, to take leave of the situation I have so long held as your chairman, and to withdraw from official connexion with the highly esteemed individuals in this state, with whom it has been my happiness to labour for the common good, it is incumbent upon me, with unfeigned thankfulness, to acknowledge primarily my obligation to the God and Father of all, for the kind and watchful care with which the lives of all the officers of the New York State Temperance Society, (except of our lamented associate, Dr. Watts, of New York,) have been preserved, and for the good measure of success with which it has pleased him to crown our efforts in the cause of suffering humanity.

"At the period our labours commenced, a vast amount of fatally absurd practice, sustained by a broad and deep foundation of croneous opinion, spread itself through the almost entire mass of community. The habitual use of intoxicating liquors, both distilled and fermented, was deemed as moral and reputable as it was universal. ELEVEN HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE distilleries in the state of New York alone, according to the report of the secretary of state in 1825, gave the surest and most melancholy evidence of the magnitude of that tide of devastation and death which was sweeping over our land.

"The great physiological truth, that alcohol, under all names and in all admixtures, when taken into the healthful human system, is a disturbing and unfriendly agent, that under no circumstances can contribute to nourish or invigorate the human body, was unknown, or at least disregarded.

"In the attempt to create a change in public sentiment on this point, perverted (and consequently) blind animal appetite, mistaken views of interest, and a most alarming apathy, were to be combated. The principle of voluntary association had been tried, and proved wonderfully efficient. Through the agency of the associations based on the principle of abstinence from ardent spirit, it was found light could be diffused, conviction could be aroused, and the note of alarm sent through the length and breadth of the land. Total abstinence from distilled liquors became the watchword of the sober and virtuous; many intemperate persons abandoned their cups; and the making and vending of distilled spirits began sensibly to decline.

"At this stage of the work, Temperance papers had been established in but few of our sister states, and the demand for our publications rose to two and three hundred thousand copies per month. By almost universal consent, the practices connected with the use of distilled liquors as a beverage came to be considered immoral, though this undeniable position, when first taken by the convention of Philadelphia, in 1833, was not generally deemed tenable. Since that time, it has been recognised as a principle of action in many religious bodies. It very soon became manifest to many reflecting persons, that a further advance should immediately be made, and that total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks, fermented as well as distilled, was the only effectual remedy for the evil we were studying to eradicate. Entrenched as was the insidious

habit of wine drinking in the immemorial customs and established usages of the wealthier classes of society; fortified as it was by the common understanding of many passages of Scripture; pleading as it did the venerable authority and example of many of the wisest and best men of all ages—it was scarce to have been expected, that at so early a date as August, 1836, a convention of near four hundred delegates, assembled from nineteen states of our Union, from Upper and Lower Canada, and other parts of the world, should have distinctly and almost unanimously pronounced of the use of all intoxicating liquor as a beverage, ‘that inasmuch as such use tends to shorten life, ruin the soul, and do many other such like evils, it DID NOT SEEM TO THEM TO BE RIGHT THAT MEN SHOULD SO USE IT, OR FURNISH IT TO BE SO USED BY OTHERS.’

“Very many good friends of total abstinence from all that can intoxicate, practise on this principle on the ground of expediency. They assume that they can drink with perfect safety to themselves, but for the good of others, they feel it a duty to abstain. To all such let us award the praise of sincerity; but I will state to you why I have not been able to take the same ground. To me it seems *morally wrong* to drink any thing that tends to abridge our own lives, or injure our neighbour. I am convinced that the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, while in health, is *always* injurious and *never* useful, and that while using it in any quantity, I am accessory and co-operative in keeping up all that dreadful machinery of making and vending, which is filling our world with misery, and destroying in this country alone, directly or indirectly, at this time, *one hundred thousand* annually. Feeling thus, for myself, I cannot put this question on any ground but *duty*—duty to myself and to my neighbour.

“Feeling deeply the necessity of renewed, more extended, and more vigorous efforts, particularly in the south and west, I am happy to perceive that there are indications of prompt and combined action on the part of the American Temperance Union, a body comprising all the officers of the State Societies, and the centre of whose operations it is proposed shall be at Philadelphia. Having been called to the honourable and responsible office of chairman of the Executive Committee of the Union, it is my present intention, as soon as my private affairs will permit, to remove to Philadelphia, and hold myself ready to devote what may remain of life and energy, to spread the great principle so clearly settled at Saratoga, throughout the Union and the world.

“In withdrawing from a participation in your councils and labours, I take pleasure in placing at the disposal of the New York State Temperance Society the sum of \$10,000, to be called for hereafter, as their wants require.

“Allow me, gentlemen, to present you the assurance of that strong and abiding sense of obligation and friendship, under which your many acts of kindness, as individuals, and as a committee, have placed me, and to commend you, in your private relationship, and in the important object of your more public deliberations and labours, to the especial favour and protection of that Almighty Being, from whom all wise counsels and benevolent works proceed.

EDWARD C. DELAVAN.”

On the resignation of Mr. Delavan, Elisha Taylor, Esq., was chosen to fill his place. The advance of the cause in the state since, has evinced his talents and fidelity.

## G. (P. 16.)

The following Temperance tales have proceeded from the pen of Lucius M. Sargent, Esq., and received a wide circulation in this and in foreign countries:

VOL. I.—No. 1. My Mother's Gold Ring. No. 2. Wild Dick. No. 3. I



am afraid there is a God. No. 4. A Sectarian Thing. No. 5. Groggy Harbour.

VOL. II.—No. 6. Right Opposite. No. 7. Fritz Hazel. No. 8. Johnny Hodges. No. 9. A Word in Season, or The Sailor's Widow. No. 10. Seed Time and Harvest.

VOL. III.—No. 11. An Irish Heart. No. 12. Well Enough for the Vulgar.

VOL. IV.—No. 13. Nancy Le Baron. No. 14. Kitty Grafton. No. 15. Too Fast and too Far.

VOL. V.—No. 16. The Stage Coach. No. 17. The Life Preserver.

## III. (P. 18.)

As their business declines, distillers are driven to various expedients to stand. They press to the cities where they can furnish food to thousands of cows from the slops of the still. In New York, it is stated, there are nine hundred dairies of about twenty cows each, and of the whole number there are not more than a dozen who use no still slops. Each cow will consume about thirty gallons a day, and give abundance of milk; but it is milk which cannot be converted into good butter or cheese, and is good for nothing but to sell. On this food the animal becomes disordered and emaciated; the teeth lose their enamel, and decay; become ulcerated at the roots, and fall out. The milk must be any thing but healthy, and to its use is ascribed, not without reason, an unusual mortality among children in New York. Were it good, the friend of Temperance should "touch not," if he thus supports the distillery. As it is so worthless, so poisonous, how can he buy it and give it to his children?

## I. (P. 39.)

### IMPORTANT JUDICIAL DECISION.

*Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, Essex, Nov. Term, 1837.*

An exception was taken to the conviction of Benjamin Kindall for selling spirituous liquors without license, on the ground that the law of the commonwealth, prohibiting any person from selling wine, brandy, rum, or other spirituous liquors, by retail without license, was repugnant to the laws and constitution of the United States.

On this exception the court say:

"The power to regulate licensed houses, and to provide for the regulations of the sale of spirituous liquors, in such manner as to guard against abuses, and to prevent the evils of disorderly houses, breaches of the peace, riot, immorality, and pauperism, is an acknowledged power of the state government; it had long been in active operation in this state, and no doubt in other states, before the constitution of the United States was adopted. It is not to be presumed that the constitution was intended to inhibit or to restrain the exercise of so useful and necessary a power, unless it shall so appear by plain words or necessary implication. The burden is upon those who would set up and enforce the restraint, to establish it, by showing that the constitution, by particular provisions, or in the accomplishment of its general purposes, necessarily interferes with it. The power to direct and regulate the mode of selling by citizens of the state, and within its own territories, is one of the



acknowledged powers of the state government, which never has been, and never can be questioned. It is in virtue of this power, that all laws respecting hawkers and pedlers, auctioneers, and others, are made. This consideration affords a view decisive of the present case."

"If, therefore, defendant had offered to show in his defence, that the spirits charged to have been illegally sold by him, without license, contrary to the statute, were imported by himself, and sold in the original package, it would then have given rise to the question which has been mainly argued in the present case. But no such evidence was offered, nor has it been intimated that such was the fact; on the contrary, it is, as far as it appears by the report, the ordinary case of the sale of spirits at retail, either domestic distilled spirits or foreign spirits, which had been sold by the importer, and become mixed up with the general mass of that class of merchandise offered for sale in small quantities by the retailer. But under the circumstances in which the case has been brought before the court, we think it proper to place this decision upon broader grounds. We are of opinion that these laws fall clearly within that large class of powers necessary to the regulation of the police, morals, health, internal commerce, and general prosperity of the community, which are fully subject to state regulation; and that the objects to be accomplished by them are to be reached and effected by any appropriate means which do not interfere with the exercise of any of the powers vested in the general government.

"The proposition upon which the court rests this decision is this, that to promote the peace, order, and security of the community, to prevent the evils of vice, riot, pauperism, and the temptation to crime, by securing and enforcing due regulations for the control and superintendence of the houses and places where spirituous liquors are to be sold, is an important object of international police; that it was, before the adoption of the constitution, and still is, within the jurisdiction of the state government, never having been confided to the general government, and that the laws of Massachusetts, on which this indictment is founded, do not, by any of the means adopted to accomplish this useful and legitimate end, interfere with the laws of the United States."

This decision covers the ground taken by the late law, which renders penal all retail of spirituous liquors in the state under fifteen gallons.—*Journal Am. Tem. Union.*

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### K. (P. 54.)

The loss of life and property, from the use of intoxicating drinks, in ships on the ocean, can never be known till the sea shall give up her dead. But the danger is increased probably tenfold in steamers, where the slightest neglect of duty might be followed with instant and horrid destruction. Of course, the most appalling events have already occurred through intemperance, in steam navigation. In August, 1831, the steamer *Rothsay Castle* was wrecked near Beaumaris, in the Menai Strait, and more than one hundred, men, women, and children, were buried in the ocean. The event was universally attributed to the drunkenness of the captain.

On the ninth of May, 1837, the steamer *Ben Sherrod* was destroyed at midnight, by fire, on the river Mississippi, and one hundred and fifty lives were lost. A committee of examination said, on careful inquiry "that, at the time the *Sherrod* took fire, the hands on duty were in a state of intoxication, having access at all times to a barrel of whisky, placed forward of the boiler-deck for their use; and that the engineer then on duty was equally culpable, having furnished the firemen with large quantities of brandy, or other spirits, as an inducement to keep up excessive fires, with a view of overtaking the *Prairie*, then ahead."

In November, the steam packet ship *Home* was wrecked on the coast of North Carolina, and ninety-five persons, chiefly of distinguished rank in society, were suddenly engulfed in eternity. Ten of the passengers declared, that the captain was incompetent to the command from intoxication, though his friends affirmed that there was no ground in his life and habits for the charge. Since then, the *Moselle* on the Ohio, the *Washington* on the Lakes, and the steam packet *Pulaski* on the southern coast, have presented scenes of unutterable distress and horror; whether from intemperance or not, is not affirmed. None were Temperance boats, and all were lost through carelessness or mad ambition.

More than one thousand lives have been sacrificed in a short period by the burning or explosion of boats and ships navigated by steam. The public mind has been greatly excited. The national Congress has made some effective regulations, but it is believed they have not struck at the root of the evil. While spirituous liquors are allowed on board, the most appalling catastrophes will continue to be witnessed. The American Temperance Union have issued a circular to all the marine insurance companies, urging them to make such a deduction in the premium on all Temperance boats as should encourage their establishment, and eventuate in the discontinuance of all others. All the offices in Cincinnati have, without delay, agreed on a deduction of ten per cent., and should the same be done throughout the country, it would do more, it is believed; to prevent evil, than all the regulations of the national Legislature. When men are sober, they will take care of themselves without law; but when drunken, what do they know, what care for?

## L. (P. 60.)

The friends of Temperance in America, who think wine a blessing, and wish this were a wine-growing country, are referred to the following extract from a letter from Mr. Shaufler, missionary at Constantinople, to Dr. Edwards, dated January 19, 1827.

“The prevalence of drunkenness upon *pure wine* has been on the increase for some ten or fifteen years past: before it was checked by the price of the wine. That used to be imported from Moldavia, and before the port of Odessa became free, foreign wines were forbidden or taxed enormously, and therefore extremely expensive. But since the port has become free, foreign wines are consumed by the rich in much larger quantity; and as to the common wine, that has become cheap, because the farmers have made an effort for some twenty years back to cultivate the vine, and they have succeeded, so that the pure common wine lies now in their own cellars, and cost them almost nothing, while it is quite cheap in the city itself. It is a matter of deep regret among the pious, that these poor German farmers should have entered upon a field of industry, promising indeed in pecuniary respects, but so ruinous in its moral bearings. The number of wine houses and cellars has been on a most alarming increase since wine has become indigenous in the country. It is perfectly astonishing how these dealers in wine can ever live,—and yet the business is alluring to those who scruple not how money is made.”

“It has often been said in America, that *pure wine* did not produce that artificial appetite for more, as distilled liquor. This is *certainly incorrect*; it does produce it. There are multitudes of drunkards in Russia and Germany, and probably here too, who get drunk on wine, *pure wine* only.

“Spirituous liquors have begun to be entirely put away in pious families in Odessa since I have sent them your Temperance publications. Some of these pious people read English. Wine, pure, has been put away from their tables.

as a common thing; and it has become a rule among the pious, never to be seen in places where wine is sold or drunk."

Dr. Hewitt testified that the wine drinkers of France were burnt up like the cider drinkers of New England. And a correspondent of the New York Observer says: "I have often heard it remarked in the United States, that intemperance was almost unknown in France; that cases of intoxication were exceedingly rare. Such an opinion, I am persuaded, could only arise from exceedingly superficial observation. Scarcely a day passes in which I do not see Frenchmen reeling through the streets, or lying about in the corners, because they are unable to stand upon their legs. I have never seen them anywhere in the United States so numerous. I see them here at all hours of the day; and, very frequently, from eleven to twelve o'clock at night, they go hollowing through the streets, disturbing the whole population, until they are picked up by the police. Intemperance here is not confined to the male sex; I have seen women in the streets so drunk that they could not possibly stand. These scenes are particularly common on Sundays and on fete days."

### M. (P. 64.)

*Distilled spirits imported into the United States from 1817 to 1837 inclusive, as reported by the secretary of the treasury of the United States. The fiscal year commences on the first day of October*

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1817,	4,051,136	1823,	3,946,224	1828,	5,102,599	1833,	2,954,258
1818,	6,052,543	1824,	5,577,774	1829,	3,423,884	1834,	2,511,354
1819,	4,477,628	1825,	5,091,170	1830,	1,692,344	1835,	3,394,439
1820,	3,928,996	1826,	3,718,152	1831,	2,491,523	1836,	3,524,288
1821,	3,658,150	1827,	3,537,426	1832,	2,810,140	1837,	2,672,228
1822,	5,088,989						

### N. (P. 64.)

*Import and export of wines into the United States, from 1821, to 1837, both inclusive. See the reports of the secretaries of the treasury of the United States.*

Year.	Gross im- portations, gallons.	Exported.	Leaving for consump- tion.	Year.	Gross im- portations, gallons.	Exported.	Leaving for consump- tion.
1821,	3,215,142	329,732	2,885,410	1830,	3,281,693	388,004	2,893,689
1822,	2,068,216	336,656	2,731,660	1831,	3,680,052	321,118	3,358,931
1823,	2,675,244	684,660	1,990,584	1832,	5,845,556	423,924	5,421,631
1824,	2,101,359	790,628	1,310,731	1833,	2,971,240	456,248	3,514,992
1825,	3,160,528	797,896	2,363,132	1834,	5,139,063	659,243	4,479,820
1826,	3,436,060	612,253	2,823,807	1835,	6,525,217	429,202	6,095,015
1827,	3,375,503	590,353	2,785,150	1836,	7,583,578	405,180	7,178,398
1828,	2,917,611	506,892	2,407,710	1837,	6,310,454	358,500	5,951,954
1829,	3,070,545	356,457	2,714,088				



## ①. (P. 72.)

Ballston Centre, Saratoga County, State of New York,  
October, 22, 1837.

TO HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND:

Permit me to ask your majesty's acceptance of the small volumes accompanying this. The tales contained in them are founded on facts. Their extensive circulation in this country has, with the blessing of God, been the means of turning very many from the destructive paths of intemperance, and prevented thousands of others from entering upon that downward course, by inducing them to abstain entirely from all those drinks which produce intoxication. The great discovery has been made by hundreds of thousands in this, and in other lands, that *all liquors containing alcohol are never useful, but always injurious to persons in health*. Time and fashion have long upheld the common use of intoxicating drinks; but this cannot render such use *right* or *expedient*, seeing the immense amount of crime and wretchedness that have in all ages, and in all places, followed as the *legitimate effect* of such use. It is our belief, that at least *one million* of our adult population in America, have already abandoned the common use of such drinks from this entire conviction, of their *always* injurious and *never* useful effect. For nine years I have been a very attentive observer of the *uniform* effect of the use of intoxicating drinks, and have watched the Temperance reformation with the most intense interest; have collected much testimony from every quarter; but I have never *seen* or *heard* of any *individual*, who had for any length of time totally abstained from the use of all such drinks, whose testimony was not *fully* in favour of this new principle. It is now universally admitted in this country, that no other principle possesses any power to reform the poor drunkard; it is also established, beyond all question, that the *intoxicating principle alcohol* is the product *not* of *distillation*, but of *fermentation*.

In this country it has been found that the *example* of those in exalted station is *all powerful* in carrying forward this great enterprise. It is in the power of a *few* in any country to eradicate a pernicious custom, no matter how popular, or of how long standing. Can those who occupy high stations expect, that those below them will be much reformed or benefited by their *precepts*, while their *example* teaches a different lesson?

I resided seven years in England. I was then convinced, and I now feel assured, that could the entire population of Great Britain be induced to abandon the use of alcoholic drinks as a beverage, and thus prevent the productions of her soil from destruction, and worse than destruction, by the brewer and distiller, and save them for food,—poverty and crime would almost cease; emigration would not take place, as a measure of necessity; universal prosperity, in every branch of industry, would prevail; and the country, in all its interests, assume an appearance of youthful vigour and beauty.

May I beg your majesty to read these little volumes? I almost venture to promise that the perusal of the first story (which has already passed through over one hundred editions) will create an interest in the heart of your majesty for those that follow.

Our frequent prayer is, that England, the land of our fathers, may experience her full share of the benefit of this great reformation; and that the hearts of its advocates may be cheered, and their hands strengthened, by the noble example of her young and beloved queen giving it her approbation and support. If, as I fear, my zeal for this cause has made me trespass too far, and I have taken too great a liberty, I will trust to your majesty to pardon my presumption, and think only of my motive.

May a kind Providence ever watch over your majesty, and enable you to view this important subject aright; and may your life be spared to be a rich blessing to your own people and the whole world, shall ever be the prayer of,

Your majesty's most obedient, humble servant,

EDWARD C. DELAVAN.



## REPLY.

*E. C. Delavan, Esq., Ballston Centre, Sar. Co. State of New York.*

St. James's Palace, January 8, 1838.

SIR,—I have had the honour to submit your letter to her majesty, and have sincere pleasure in being able to inform you that the queen has very graciously been pleased to acquiesce in the request therein expressed, and to accept of the four small volumes of Temperance Tales which accompanied it. Her majesty, at the same time, was pleased to command me to convey to you the expression of her entire satisfaction at this mark of your attention.

The subject, indeed, would not fail to create great interest. The efforts which are now making, both in America and in this country, for the suppression of the besetting sin of intemperance, cannot but meet with her majesty's approbation; and I think it will be gratifying to you to know that those passages in your letter which relate to your residence in England, and the effects likely to be produced here by an abandonment of this pernicious vice, are fully appreciated; and more particularly that passage which assures her majesty that "your fervent prayer is, that England, the land of our fathers, may experience her full share of the benefit of this great reformation."

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. H. GLOVER, *her majesty's librarian.*

## P. (P. 72.)

*Extract of a letter written July 22, 1837, by the Count Molé, President of the Council, and Minister of Foreign Affairs, to Mr. M. E. Hersant, Consul of France at Philadelphia.*

"The results obtained in the United States by the Temperance societies, beginning to attract the public attention in France, I would see with pleasure, sir, your researches and investigations directed towards those institutions; and that through a minute report upon their organization and effects in the different parts of the Union, you would put the government of the king in the way to form a just and correct idea of them."

On a presentation of the above by Mr. Hersant to the Committee, all the Temperance documents in their possession were immediately forwarded, with an address to the Count Molé from the chairman and corresponding secretary, explaining fully the objects and results of the Temperance reformation. The committee have been assured, that the whole have been favourably received and committed to the public institute.

## Q. (P. 78.)

*Address of the President and Executive Committee of the American Temperance Union, to Emigrants leaving their native country for America.*

FRIENDS,—At a national Temperance convention held at Saratoga Springs, in the state of New York, in the summer of 1836, it was made our duty to do all in our power to persuade all classes of men, for their own benefit and the good of others, to abandon all use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

That convention, composed of numerous delegates from almost every state, and from the British provinces, unanimously resolved, that intoxicating drinks are never beneficial for persons in health; and the experiment of entire abstinence in the performance of all labours, made for more than ten years by thousands among us, has proved highly favourable to all who have tried it.

We regret to say, that, while our own American population are generally well informed respecting the poisonous nature of intoxicating drinks, and the destructive tendency of even their moderate use in any form, the stranger coming among us is not always so. He leaves his country, full of hope and high expectation with regard to this land of promise; but alas! this expectation is often blasted; not because the country does not afford every advantage to the industrious and sober, but because a large proportion of emigrants landing on our shores soon find their way to the drinking shops, where the means of intoxication are obtained at a rate so low, that in this they seem to find all the good they anticipated in our land, while they are gathering its most fatal curse. We know that to be true which we speak, when we say, that this early resort to the tavern and the dram-shop, is one of the principal causes of failure and blasted hopes to the poor emigrant.

The object of this brief appeal is to place you on your guard before you land on our shores, and to give you some few directions, which, if followed, will, we think, in most cases, insure you all you may have anticipated in leaving the old to become inhabitants of the new world.

1. Resolve, from the moment you read this document, never again to use ardent spirit, beer, ale, cider, or wine, as a beverage in health; since it is well ascertained that they do not allay thirst, but increase it, and since their use never gives any permanent strength, but diminishes it; and the most laborious occupations can be conducted with more ability and to better advantage upon pure water, the beverage provided so abundantly by the Almighty, than upon any other liquid whatever.

2. Either before leaving your native shores, or on the passage, let the subject of total abstinence from all that intoxicates be fully discussed, and let all who wish to secure themselves from temptation, and strengthen their resolution, sign the pledge attached to this document.

3. On your arrival in the country, request some individual to direct you to the secretary of a Temperance society, that you may have your name recorded as a member. There is scarcely a city or town without one; and should you, after locating in one place, remove to another, take a certificate of membership with you, and unite with the new society where you may fix your residence. Our secretary, John Marsh, New York, will advise you.

4. If you wish employment, seek it without delay after your arrival. If you are known to belong to the Temperance society there will be little difficulty in obtaining it. Even those who continue to drink themselves, prefer employing those who do not to those who do, and will often give them better wages, and repose in them more confidence.

5. Avoid as you would the plague the business of selling strong drink. After the most careful examination, it has been found that a large proportion of those who enter into this business either come to poverty, losing all their little capital, or become drunkards.

6. Avoid as places of resort the tavern and the grog-shop. They are as fatal to their victims as to their keepers. They are the avenues leading to misery, degradation, and death.

7. When you are on the look out for a purchase, seek a temperate and industrious population, and a place where liquor is not sold. You will, on inquiring of Temperance men, find many such.

8. Be frugal of your earnings. Our winters are severe; and then labour is scarce and provisions expensive. Be careful; and save during the mild months, for good warm clothing and plenty of fuel, and good food, when the pinching season commences. We have been informed by a highly intelligent Catholic priest, that full one-third of all the male Irish emigrants, who arrive in this country in the opening of spring, are in their graves before the following spring, for the reason, that as they arrive in the mild season, and are generally thinly clad, as they spend from day to day all their earnings, either in liquor or other things, when the winter approaches, it finds them without

proper food, or clothing, or fuel, or the means of procuring any; the consequence is great suffering—disease, without the means of procuring medical aid, and premature death. The country is condemned, while, in most cases, strong drink is at the bottom of all the trouble and disappointment.

9. Too many emigrants remain in the large cities. The country presents by far the fairest prospect for them. There they can find employment. Living is cheap, and temptations to evil are few.

10. America is a country where all denominations of Christians have liberty to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. It is a country where the Sabbath is respected, and generally observed. If you wish to prosper, keep this day sacred. Always attend, if practicable, some place of worship. You can never establish a fair character here, if you habitually break the Lord's day.

Our advice, then, is, avoid the grog-shops; give up, at once and forever, the use of all liquors that can intoxicate. Remember, that all intemperance, and all the evils that flow from it, originate in moderate drinking, and that there is perfect safety only in entire abstinence. It has been found that about one-third of our adult male population have died intemperate, and that their lives have been cut short, upon an average, about twelve years. It was the first glass that did it. Avoid, then, the FIRST GLASS. Our motives in giving you these directions are, a sincere wish to promote your welfare, to prevent disappointments, and make you and your children a blessing to our country. Follow them, and we can assure you that all your anticipations with regard to our land will be fully realized. But remember that success depends on effort. If you would reap, you must sow. America is a land of promise to the sober and industrious, but not to the dissipated and idle. For the virtuous and temperate, here is room for millions to prosper.

JOHN H. COCKE, of *Virginia, President.*

EDWARD C. DELAVAN, *Ballston Centre, New York,*

J. W. LEAVITT, *City of New York,*

JOHN TAPPAN, *Boston, Massachusetts,*

ISAAC S. LOYD, *Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,*

CHRISTIAN KEENER, *Baltimore, Maryland,*

JOHN T. NORTON, *Farmington, Connecticut,*

THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN, *Newark, New Jersey,*

*Executive Committee.*

#### FAIR PROSPECTS OF MASSACHUSETTS AND TENNESSEE.

These two states have now, by the acts of their legislatures, suppressed the entire retail of spirituous liquors, except by the apothecary as a common medicine. Should the people sustain these legislative enactments, the following may be viewed as the probable results:

1. A drunkard in those states will, hereafter, be a rare spectacle.
2. Most of the present race of drunkards will be reformed; such as continue drunkards will continue so on wine, beer, and cider; and by getting ardent spirits from unprincipled apothecaries and physicians, as a medicine; but the most will remove into other states.
3. The taverns and public houses will assume a new aspect; be neat and comfortable accommodations for travellers, more like private than public houses; no drunkards hanging around them; no filthy bar-rooms filled with an obscene, profane rabble; no bloated, swaggering bar-keeper for the host; no noise at midnight, disturbing repose.
4. In the seaports of the one, and the river towns of the other, there will be no land sharks to catch the poor sailor and boatman. Sailors' boarding houses and lodging places will be places of safety, from which the poor seaman may

go out untarnished, with all that is his, to his own dear home, or to his path on the mighty waters.

5. With the destruction of dram selling in ports and harbours, will, in a great measure, cease gambling, debauchery, fighting, robbery, manslaughter, and the like.

6. More than three-fourths of the crimes and pauperism of those states may cease; and more than three-fourths of the taxation occasioned by those evils, be, in future, dispensed with.

7. The frequency of diseases may be greatly lessened, and future epidemics, like the cholera, may be expected to be far less destructive.

8. The number of insane will be much less than in former years. No wives will be whipped and murdered, and no children bruised and maimed by husbands and fathers, made fiends by rum.

9. Locomotives, stages, ships, steamboats, and all kinds of violent machinery, may be managed with a steadiness and caution that will secure safety to travellers, owners, and all engaged in and about them.

10. The rising generation will come up healthful and vigorous, without bodily, mental, or moral deterioration from strong drink.

11. The war spirit will subside, and military days will be comparatively harmless to the community; while, by the prevalence of Temperance, the public arm will be mightily strengthened.

12. Education will be far more widely diffused. In no town will there be, as formerly, ten or a dozen families made too poor, by the tavern and the dram-shop, to clothe their children and send them to school.

13. The elective franchise will be preserved in great purity. Men will vote with clear heads and sound hearts for those who are to rule over them, while the political demagogue, stripped of his most potent armour, will sink into contempt.

14. Public morals will everywhere be improved; the efficiency of the gospel be augmented; the house of God increasingly honoured; and multitudes of souls who, had the sale of spirituous liquors not been suppressed, might have travelled through woes unutterable to the drunkard's grave, may now be trained and prepared for the endless joys of heaven.

THE END.